The World's Daily Newspaper

Paris, Wednesday, April 7, 1999



# A High-Risk Gamble in East Timor

### Call for Uprising Is Seen as Bid to Draw In UN Peacekeepers

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE - By calling for an armed uprising in East Tomor against pro-Indonesian forces, the rebel leader Xanana Gusmao is adopting a high-risk tactic to get a United Nations peacekeeping contingent into the disputed territory as quickly as possible, analysts and associates of Mr. Gusmao said

They say he is acting now because the international community is reductant to move and preoccapied with the Kosovo

crisis. There is a real danger, they added, that as a result of his call Monday for "a general popular insurrection" in East Timor, violence in the former Por-tuguese colony will intensify.

In fresh wolence Tuesday, Indone-an period cilled at least 40 civilians when they assacked an East Timorese church, spraying it with bullets and burling grenades. Renters reported from Jakarta, quoting pro-independence groups. Soldiers stormed the church in Liquisa, 30 kilometers west of the territorial capital, Dili, where more than 2.000 men, women and children were

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sheltered after attacks by pro-Jakarta loyalists Monday.] A surge in violence may delay or

ranging autonomy or independence, in-donesian and foreign officials said.

another round of talks in New York later this month brokered by the United Na-But a senior aide to President B.J.

Mr. Gusmao's call to arms threatened the whole peace process. This is clearly very unfortunate,

It will only inflame the situation." The United States, Japan and Australia also expressed concern at Mr. Gustuao's move, which they fear could not only lead to full-scale civil war in East Timor but also make it more dif-

Mr. Gusmao is both commander of the East Timorese guerrillas, who have been fighting since Indonesian forces invaded East Timor in 1975 and annexed it the following year, and president of the National Council of

Timorese Resistance, an umbrella group representing East Timorese who

# Europeans Line Up to Join \*Libya's Awaited Oil Boom

Indonesian troops arriving in East Timor on Tuesday amid new violence.

By Reed V. Landberg Blumberg News

TRIPOLI — European oil companies are preparing for an investment boom in Libya after Tripoli turned over two suspects in the 1988 Pan Am bombing, clearing the way for the United Nations

to suspend sanctions. ENI SpA of Italy, aiready Libya's biggest foreign oil producer, and Lasmo PLC of Britain are among the companies that are planning to expand in-

Their activities will put further strains on continued sanctions that Washington

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imposed independently on Libya two years before the bombing, in response to terrorist incidents that forced American

oil companies to leave the country.
On Tuesday, the two Libyan suspects were charged with murder and conspiracy in connection with the bomb that exploded on the Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270 people. (Page 8)
Libya has lost \$24 billion in potential

oil revenues since the UN sanctions were imposed in 1992 and is desperate for investment - due to the drop in the

price of oil more than the embargo.
Oil income, accounting for 95 percent of the nation's hard-currency earnings, fell more than one-third last year as crude prices touched 12-year lows. That forced Libya to devalue its currency by 18 percent in December.

Oil companies will now feel more comfortable in talking with the Libyan government about potential projects. said Mohammed Abduljabbar, who is an industry consultant with the Petroleum Finance Co. in Washington. "It will allow Libya to rebabilitate its oil production.

Lifting UN sanctions means that international flights to Tripoli could be resumed and Libya could buy supplies to refurbish oil-export equipment.

While the European Union has no ban on oil drilling in Libya, the six-hour drive from Tunisia to Tripoli is an ordeal that has warded off many Western

l"I don't think it is an issue of the money or spare parts," Abdel Monem Sald Aly, director of Al Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies in Cairo, told The Associated Press. "It is

even abort a plan by Indonesia to offer East Timorese a choice between wide-

Portugal and Indonesia were aiming to finalize details of such a plan at

Habibie of Indonesia said Tuesday that

Dewi Fortuna Anwar, Mr. Habibie's senior foreign policy adviser, said in Jakarta. "The government is very serious about finding a peaceful solution.

ficult for Indonesia to bold credible parliamentary and presidential elections between June and November.

want independence. He issued his written statement from

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	THE DOMAI	
New York	Tuesday @ 4 P.ML	previous close
Euro	1.0835	1.0715
Pound	1.5925	1.6003
Yen	120.525	121.85
DM	1.805	1.8251
FF	6.0538	6.121
Dollars per pe	ound and per euro.	
	The Dow	
-	Tuesday close	percent change
- 43.84	9,963.49	-0.44%
	S&P 500	
<b>*</b>		
3.23	1,317.89	-0.24%
	Nasdag	
+ 3.10	2,563.16	+ 0.12%

# Milosevic Calls a Cease-Fire **But NATO Stands By Terms**

#### Terrified Refugees in Limbo

By Carlotta Gall

SKOPJE, Macedonia - Confusion and a desperate anxiety have spread through the Kosovar Albanian refugees here as Macedonian authorities pressed on with their shipment of people abroad and Serbian police forced refugees still stuck in Kosovo to return to the provincial capital, Pristina.

In the misery of mud and stench of Blace, the sprawling mess of makeshift bomes made from blankets and plastic sheets at the Kosovo border, refugees are now tormented with

Several bundred refugees left for Turkey or Norway on Monday, and hundreds more followed Tuesday, when six busloads of refugees were driven in to Skopje's airport to board a plane to Turkey. (Page 5)

More planes were lined up on the tarmac, and the transport of hundreds more refugees was expected to carry on through the night, the police said.

Some of the refugees, ethnic Turks, talked through the bus windows and said they were going willingly. But others said they had been forced by police to go and that they did not even know where they were beaded.

Violence has broken out in the no man's land along the border, and refugees talk of Serbian police using force to baul

Occupants of about 300 to 400 cars still waiting to cross into Macedonia from Kosovo were ordered back to Pristina by Serbian police Monday.

Contacted by telephone Tuesday, they said they had been rounded up and chased from the capital a week ago and now were being sent back to a town that at that time was being systematically depopulated.

Allied Bombing Heaviest Yet

By Joseph Fitchett

PARIS - Serbia declared a unilateral cease-fire for its forces in Kosovo on Tuesday, but the NATO allies rejected it and said that the quickening allied air offensive would continue until Serbian troops left the province and until international guarantees had been put in place for the return home by more than a million refugees.

Washington and key European capitals brushed aside the Serbian overture as Westero emergency relief started making inroads in coping with the plight of masses of Kosovar

For the first time, allied planes hit Serbian tanks operating in Kosovo -- with officials saying that air power was starting to knock out armor and deprive tanks and other vehicles of fuel as the alliance moved to drive Belgrade's troops out of

In what a NATO official called "our most intensive night of operations yet," four waves of warplanes bombed more than 30 targets on Monday night, cutting a third bridge over the Danube and destroying a major oil-storage depot. These were among other targets hit in a dozen towns and military areas in Kosovo and Serbia.

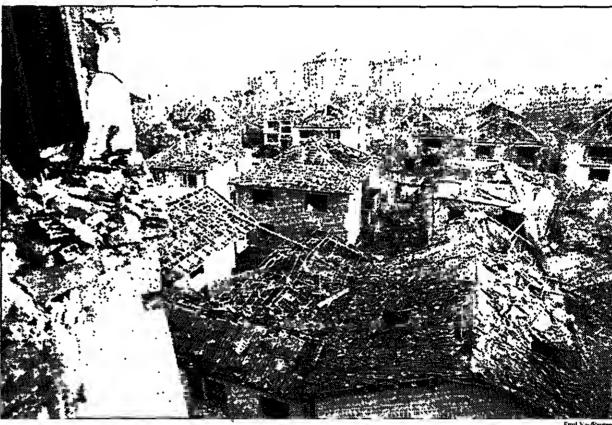
All the allied aircraft returned safely, officials said.

Serbian tanks were photographed during the night sorties and allied strike planes then went out for ground attacks during daylight, Air Commodore David Wilby said during a briefing at the NATO headquarters in Brussels.

Finally, with the weather clearing and the Serbian air defenses weakening, NATO was "very close to achieving our aim of localizing fielded forces" — meaning Serbian armor units, which now would be pounded relentlessly, he said.

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An overview of the Serb town of Aleksinac showing the destruction by NATO bombs that missed their targets.

## 'Technical Defect' Kills 7 in Serb Town

By Steven Erlanger

ALEKSINAC, Serbia - Stana Stojanovic was watching "Esmeralda," ber favorite soap opera, when she beard the airplanes flying low over this little coal-mining town at about

"I asked my husband if be could hear anything, but he said 'No,' so I turned off the television." she said Tuesday as she shoddered and bugged herself in the hot morning sun, standing in the chaoric rubble of what remained of Vuka Karadzica

"At that moment there was a buge explosion, and it felt like a bammer on my head. I dragged him off the sofa and pulled him under a table."

When she emerged, she said, the bonses across the street were smoking heaps of brick and tile, with body parts visible and pools of blood. Her neighbors, Dragan and Dragica Milodinovic, and their 42-year-old daughter, Snezana, were dead, their daughter-in-law and two grandchildren, Marko and Dijana, badly wounded in the hospital.

'The people responsible for this should be tried." she sbouted, beginning to weep. "We will not take revenge, but we will not be slaves."

In what NATO called an accident of war, NATO bombs demolished two residential areas in this quiet, small town of 20,000 people, killing at least seven of them and wounding nearly 50 others, local police said.

The explosions also damaged the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's reputation for surgical precision in its un-declared war from the air against President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia and his policies in Kosovo.

In Brussels, with the dry precision of the well-briefed modero military man, Air Commodore David Wilby said: "It is possible that one of our weapons fell short of the target." NATO was aiming at an army barracks that bouses the 203d Mixed Artillery Brigade, he said, but the munitions apparently fell 1,800 feet (550 meters) away.

He regretted any loss of life, he said. "Despite our meticulous and careful pre-attack planning." he said, "the law of

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## Pictures of the Refugees Solidify Support for NATO

#### U.S. Consensus Now Backs a Ground War

By Dan Balz

WASHINGTON - With remarkable speed, a consensus supporting the deployment of U.S. ground forces in Kosovo has formed in Washington, and a Washington Post-ABC News Poll shows a similar shift in public opinion, with 55 percent of the public saying they would support such an expansion.

Even as the Clinton administration continues to rule out ground forces until "a permissive environment" exists in Kosovo, foreign policy experts and key members of Congress are making the case that deployment may be inevit-

They argue that, with the air war in Yugoslavia not achieving its immediate objective of stopping President Slobodan Milosevic, it may take such a risky cummitment to deal with the hu-

manitarian disaster unfolding on the

Foreign policy analysts say some of the old notions of left and right have gone out the window in the post-Cold

Instead, the consensus for what could be a wider war in Europe fuses the humanitarian instincts of many on the left, who are outraged by the scenes of refugees flooding into Macedonia and Albania, with realpolitik advocates who argue that U.S. power and prestige must be protected in a conflict with a leader such as Mr. Milosevic.

"Very early on, there was among the foreign policy establishment a realization that this was real, that this was not just a bit of bombing, but that it basically was a declaration of war." said Ivo Dualder of the Brookings Institution in

See TROOPS, Page 4

## 'Scenes From Europe's Darkest Hour'

By Warren Hoge

LONDON - Television images of refugees staggering out of Kosovo are having a powerful effect on public opinion across Europe, turning pacifists and anti-NATO activists of decades ago and NATO critics of just a week ago into supporters of sustained bombing.

year-old construction company office worker, has watched the coverage and felt a national kinship with the refugees suffering. "Spaniards also have emigrated when we were in need." he said as he waited at a bus stop outside the Prado, "and we should accept them

In Italy, the images of Kosovars packed onto exile trains have brought the war home with chilling reminders of moments from "Life Is Beautiful," the

#### Holocaust story by the Academy

New York Times Service

Newscasts and front pages are filled

In Madrid, Francisco Sanchez, a 25-

Award-winning actor Roberto Benigni. In Britain, Prime Minister Tony Blair said that for him the pictures were "scenes that belong to Europe's darkest

daily with accounts of brutality and suffering and deeply affecting pictures of people stranded in border fields, streaming across frontiers in forced marches and crowding around relief workers for

Roy Hanersley, a former British Labour Party deputy leader and government minister, wrote in Monday's Guardian: "My own doubts about the bombing — expressed in this column last week — have been completely removed by seven days of pictures. A NATO victory is the only real hope of

See EUROPE, Page 4

# At U.S. Urging, China Delays Trial of Dissident Ex-Official

Agence France-Presse

BEIJING - The trial of a former Communist Party official who called for postponed indefinitely after the United States pressed for his release, a U.S. official said Tuesday.

the Chinese side to release Fang Jue. the U.S. official said.

Washington pointed out "the inauspiciousness of the timing of the trial" and indicated that if there was to be a trial, the United States wanted to have an observer present, he said.

for an eight-day visit to the United States, ency of like-minded middle- and high-

By Paul Blustein

WASHINGTON - For Xerox Corp..

hopes suddenly are rising for signif-icantly better access to China's poten-

tially vast market.

Like other manufacturers shipping

goods to China. Xerox has been bedeviled for years by Beijing's require-

ment that foreign exporters use gov-emment-run trading companies and dis-tributors to sell their products. The rules effectively prevent Xerox from dealing directly with customers and providing

But now, in recent negotiations with

the United States over Beijing's bid to enter the World Trade Organization.

Chinese officials have offered to phase out these rules for many sectors, and Xerox executives are delighted with the prospect of a deal that could lead to

substantial increases in exports of their

U.S.-made office equipment.
"We're encouraged by what we're hearing." said J. Michael Farren, Xer-

ox's representative in Washington. "We would very much like to be able to set up

the same kind of distribution operations in China that we have elsewhere, If a

deal is struck, that would be a critical

element of the agreement."
That's a hig "if."
With Prime Minister Zhu Rongji of

China having arrived Tuesday in Los

Angeles to meet Thursday with Pres-

ident Bill Clinton in Washington, in-

tensive negotiations are under way for an

accord that could lead to China gaining

ntembership in the WTO this year.
Such n deal would gild the Chinese leader's trip, which otherwise is marred

hy discord over human rights. Taiwan,

the war in Yugoslavia and China's al-

But while China has gone surprisingly far in recent weeks toward meeting U.S.

demands that it eliminate trade barriers,

the U.S. trade representative. Charlene

Barshefsky, is insisting that Beijing go

further if it wants Washington's support for its membership in the Geneva-based

On Monday the two sides jockeyed

Long Yongtu, the chief negotiator for

China, announced, "We are very close

to getting this agreement." He said the

agreement would be "very attractive to

the U.S. husiness community;" a remark

that appeared aimed at rallying U.S.

husinesses to pressure Mr. Clinton's ad-

But Jay Ziegler, a spokesman for Mrs. Barshefsky, said, "We still have sub-

stanual differences across major areas."

toward integrating the world's most populous country into the global eco-

At stake is a potentially major step

As a member of the WTO, China

would be required to ahide by such in-

temational trade principles as "national

treatment." which restricts countries

from treating foreign companies less fa-

Beijing also would be expected to abide by WTO accords, such as the 1998

pact reducing to zero the tariffs on high-

But some key U.S. industries remain

dissatisfied with Chinese plans to main-

tain barriers in their sectors, and it is

vorably than domestic ones.

iechnology goods.

for public-relations advantage.

ministration to compromise.

trade organization.

nomic system.

leged theft of U.S. nuclear secrets,

satisfactory service.

**U.S. Sees Growing Signs** 

Of Trade Shift by China

where China's human-rights record is expected to be roundly condemned.

Mr. Zhu arrived in Los Angeles on democratic reforms in China has been Tuesday and began a visit packed with meetings with city and husiness leaders to discuss future partnerships between China and Los Angeles in husiness, "We did make representations urging trade, technology, and entertainment, according to a statement issued by the

Mr. Fang, 44, was to be tried Tuesday in Beijing after his indictment March 22 for fraud and illegal business practices. He has denied the charges.

He published an essay in early 1998 The postponement of the trial came as calling for democratic reforms and Prime Minister Zhu Rongji left Beijing claimed to represent a silent constitu-

U.S. business community behind a

ter than leaving it outside the rules of the road that the rest of us live by," said Robert Kapp, president of the U.S.-China Business Council, which repre-

sents major multinational corporations.
"But it depends on the agreement."

Both sides are operating under severe

Chinese leaders are struggling to con-

tain rising unemployment amid slow growth, which makes them more loath than usual to dismantle tariffs, quotas and other controls that protect domestic

The United States is contending with a Congress where bostility toward China is running high. Capitol Hill could quash China's WTO hid by blocking a bill that.

as one of the deal's essential elements,

would end the requirement that Beijing gain annual approval of normal trading relations with the United States.

But many economists and China specialists say the United States stands to

benefit considerably from a well-crafted WTO agreement, while Beijing would bear most of the political pain by ex-

years to give its companies time to adjust, hur Beijing recently has agreed to

shorten some phase-in periods.

'If we could get a deal, it would do

that Mr. Zhu, an ardent economic re-

former, wants a foundation for shedding many of the remaining vestiges of Com-munist economic policies. At least, it

demonstrate determination to adhere

more closely to global capitalism now

that many foreign companies are losing interest in huilding factories in China.

"By signing up to the WTO," said Michael Maibach, an Intel Corp. rep-

resentative, "China sends a signal to

investors worldwide that it's going to be a

have gone far toward appeasing U.S.

industries and producer groups, such as

Whatever the motive, the Chinese

resentative of a major U.S. company.

"You know the line about the bacon-

chicken was a participant but the pig was committed? Well, we're the chicken, but

China's the pig.
"We may have to give up some eggs.

friendly home for foreign investment.'

industries and workers.

Bringing China into the system of world trading rules is considerably bet-

level Communist Party officials. China's human-rights record has long strained ties with the United States. Washington is again seeking to sponsor

a resolution censoring Beijing at the annual meeting of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva. Similar U.S.-sponsored resolutions have failed on seven previous occasions. Washington backed down from spon-

soring such a resolution last year as the relationship between the two countries warmed over an exchange of summit

Despite assurances of protection of human rights and greater democracy by President Jiang Zemin in October 1997 and June 1998 in his meetings with President assurances of protection of human rights and greater democracy by from an official at Beijing's No. 2 Intermediate People's Court who informed me the trial had been postponed."

ident Bill Clinton, China has intensified its crackdowns on political dissidents.

Mr. Jiang vowed last year to "nip in the hud" all dissent before the anniversary this year of China's crushing of pro-democracy protests around Trananmen Square on June 4, 1989, and before Beijing prepared to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in October.

Mr. Fang's lawyer confirmed that the trial had been postponed but refused to comment on any reasons for the government's moves.

"I received a call Monday afternoon from an official at Beijing's No. 2 Intermediate People's Court who informed

the lawyer, Mo Shaoping, said.
The official did not say when the trial

would take place, only that the trial had been postponed because the chief judge had other urgent matters to attend to." A former official of the Water Resources Ministry and the Fujian pro-

vincial planning committee, Mr. Fang was detained by the police last July 23 while on his way to meet a friend at a Beijing hotel.

The police tried to press Mr. Fang in June 1998 into striking a deal to provide names of other reform-minded officials in return for freedom from prosecution, the Hong Kong-based Information Cen-ter of Human Rights and Democratic Movement in China said.

#### Election in Tokyo Too Close to Call

BRIEFLY

3 Filipinos Given

Stay of Execution

MANILA - President Joseph

Estrada of the Philippines gave a 90-

day reprieve Tuesday to three men

facing execution for killing a po-liceman while robbing 200 pesos

(\$5) from passengers of a mini-hus.

The three were scheduled to be

pnt to death Wednesday in what

would have been the first multiple

execution in a single day in the

largely Roman Catholic country

since it restored capital punishment

TOKYO — Shintaro Ishihara, a nationalist author and former lawmaker in Japan's governing Liberal Democratic Party, is leading in opinion polls ahead of the election

Sunday for a new governor of Tokyo but may not get the 25 percent needed to win, media reports say.

With more than one-third of voters still undecided, predicting the outcome will be tongh, the reports said. The Tokyo race is one of 12 governor elections to be held Sunday along with several other lo-

#### Khmer Rouge Chief Picks New Lawyer

PHNOM PENH — The Khmer Rouge leader Ta Mok has chosen a new lawyer to defend him before the court that charged him with terrorist

court that charged him with terrorist and anti-government activities.

The military judge Ney Thol said Tuesday that Mr. Ta Mok had asked for the Cambodian-American lawyer Benson Samay to defend him, saying he thought Mr. Benson Samay was "old enough to defend my case." Mr. Benson Samay is 56, 24 years older than Chiv Song Hok, the legal counsel who had been anthe legal counsel who had been ap-pointed last week by the court. (AP)

## U.S. Helps to Fight Asian Sea Pirates

SINGAPORE — The U.S. Navy is helping its Asian counterparts comhat the rising threat of sea piracy in the region, Rear Admiral Steve Loeffler, the U.S. Navy Logistics Group Commander for the Western Pacific, said Tuesday.
Pirates killed 67 ship crewmen

worldwide last year, compared with 51 in 1997, mostly in Southeast Asia, where pirates still lurk among thousands of small islands. (AP)

In Washington, the State Department

If true, this would be a dangerous

reconsider.

## their weapons. But Mr. Gusmao's associates made it could turn out to be a bloody. "If true, this would be a and troubling development."

#### Tuti, the mother of a pro-democracy activist who was taken away by Indonesian Army special forces in 1998 and remains missing, sitting near soldiers Tuesday in Jakarta during the trial of 11 of them on charges of abduction.

## TIMOR: Rebel Leader Says Killings Provoked Call for Uprising

Continued from Page 1

house arrest in Jakarta, associates said

posing its industries to competition.

Most of China's market-opening moves
would be phased in over a number of Pro-independence groups in East Timor said that they would follow Mr. Gusmao's orders. Reuters reported

Until Monday, Mr. Gusmao had steadfastly urged his supporters in East more for American firms than for Chinese firms, 's said Nicholas Lardy of Timor to maintain a cease-fire and work the Brookings Institution. 'China already has unlimited access to our market, and there are ohvious constraints on for peace and reconciliation.

The immediate cause of his reversal of policy was reports Monday that hunour access to their markets. So the idea of withholding WTO membership as a sanction strikes me as ill-conceived and dreds of armed pro-Indonesia militiamen had attacked pro-independence advocates in East Timor not far from the against U.S. interests."

But Beijing would gain prestige and some protection from unilateral trade sanctions by joining the WTO. China's Chers said as many as 17 had be a control of the capital, Dili, leaving at least three persons dead and eight wounded, according

Others said as many as 17 had been

apparent interest in an accord suggests killed. Mr. Gusmao said in his statement that violence unleashed by the pro-Jakarta militia groups backed by the Indonesian military, and the failure of the intersuggests, the prime minister wants to national community to intervene to halt the conflict, had reached an intolerable

"Jakarta's marderous generals force us to violate our compromise," he said.

"I know that the East Timorese people will suffer another bloodbath, but I also know we have no other alternative." clear Tuesday that be would consider revoking his call to arms only if the United Nations acted to restore order in

Mr. Gusmao added that because the international community had maintained "an attitude of passivity" about East Timor, "the Indonesian govern-ment feels sufficiently confident of its ability to go on arming more groups all over the territory, and to intensify the campaign of violence to the point of murdering the population and then haming the resistance.

But Miss Anwar denied charges that the Indonesian military was behind the mounting violence hy pro-Jakarta militias, saying that the army supported Jakarta's new policy, first announced by Mr. Habihie in January, of letting East Timorese vote on their future.

"The killings have been mutual," she said. "The way forward is for mod-

eration. Miss Anwar questioned how any direct balloting could be held in East Timor if the violence worsened and said that if the rebels returned to armed insurrection it would be impossible to expect pro-integration groups to lay down

peacekeeping force and organize a ref-

drawn into the East Timor conflict, fear-

conflict would end." The United States, Australia and other regional countries are reluctant to be

East Timor and if the Indonesian mil-

For several months now, there has

been no sign of good faith on the part of

Indonesia," said an East Timorese win-ner of the Nobel Peace Prize, Jose

Ramos Horta, in Sydney.
"There have been no actions on the

ground that would confirm that the In-

donesians will allow the people of East

Timor to express their wishes freely on the future of the country," Mr. Ramos Horta added, "For example, Jakarta has not agreed to a UN presence in East

Nonetheless, there is a way ont. Mr.

"If Indonesia reduced the number of

its troops, disarmed the paramilitary groups and allowed the UN to send in a

itary withdrew.

Horta said.

the statement by Mr. Gusmao. A spokesman, James Rubin, said: "If reported correctly, we would urge him to

## Panel Proposes Punishment for Anwar's Beating

KUALA LUMPUR - A royal commission investigating injuries suffered by former Deputy Prime beef ranchers and packers, who want Minister Anwar Ibrahim while be was in police custody Beijing to slash its 40 percent tariff on recommended action Tuesday against a police officer. Minister Anwar Ibrahim while be was in police custody

The three-man commission presented a report to the beef, among other things.

Some American business lohbyists head of state, Tunku Ja'afar ibni Abdul Rahman, the said they supported U.S. efforts to wring every possible concession but also official Bernama news agency said. No details were given. Anuar Zainal Ahidin, chairman of the commission, said action had been recommended against one marveled at how far Beijing had come. police officer for causing injuries to Mr. Anwar. "It's a very tough thing we're asking Zhu Rongji to do," said the Washington

Only one person is named, and you know who he is." the former chief justice was quoted as saying by Bernama. The commission had been expected to recommend action against Rahim Noor, the former inand-egg breakfasts, about bow the spector-general of police, who admitted beating Mr. Anwar, saying he had felt provoked when Mr. Anwar

The government ordered an inquiry after Mr. Anwar made his first appearance in court in late September sporting a hlack eye and a bruised arm.

had tarnished their image, it had not caused the public to lose confidence in the police.

'I want to stress that the incident does not reflect the culture or conduct of the Royal Malaysia Police," he said. "It is the conduct of an individual and should not be viewed as that of every policeman or officer."

Karpal Singh, an opposition lawmaker, said the government should begin criminal proceedings against Mr. Rahim, charging that he had "brought the name of the police force into disrepute.

"When there is a wrong, there must be a remedy," he said. Mr. Karpal, deputy chairman of the Demo-cratic Action Party, said the recommendations should be made public. But it remained uncertain whether the

Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi but the deputy prime minister said his condition was defended the police and said that although the incident stable and not serious. The Associated Press reported. Mr. Abdullah brushed aside rumors that his boss was gravely ill. "Not true, these are concocted stories," hesaid. "It is very unkind to say that." Mr. Abdullah said he did not know when Mr. Mahathir would be dis-

charged from the National Heart Institute, where he

was admitted five days ago. He said doctors had told.

him that Mr. Mahathir needed more rest. "If you leave it to the P.M., he wants to come our right away. That's him," Mr. Abdullah was quoted assaying by Bernama. "He is anxious to be in his office to do his work, but his doctors feel he should rest." Mr. Mahathir, Asia's longest-serving leader, has

governed Maiaysia for 18 years.

He became ill after he returned Wednesday from report would be released.

Deputy Says Mahathir's Condition Is Stable
Prime Minister Mahathir hin Mohamad, 73, remained in the hospital with a lung infection Tuesday,

Mecca, Saudi Arabia, where he performed the traditional Islamic pilgrimage. He canceled many of his meetings last week and all engagements this week, including the opening Monday of a new session of Parliament. Mr. Mahathir had a triple-bypass heart operation in 1989.

#### TRAVEL UPDATE

unclear whether Beijing is willing to make enough concessions to unite the get this thing done."

#### **British Airways Offers** Loans to Travelers

LONDON (AP) - British Airways began offering travel loans Tuesday of £500 to £15,000 to make it easier for people to splurge on vacations.

The loans, equivalent to \$800 to \$24,000, carry a 15.9 percent annual interest rate and must be repaid in two years. They are available at six of the company's travel shops in Britain.

Standard personal loans will also be available, at an annual interest rate of

Portuguese truck drivers called off a day-old strike Tuesday, saying management had agreed to their wage demands. The National Road Transport Association, which represents trucking compa-nies, said that only a few companies had yielded to the demands and that the union was looking for an honorable end to the strike after a low turnout. (AP)

Germany's renovated Parliament from the agreement.

Berlin, the Reichstag, will be open to Judge Manuel Real of U.S. District in Berlin, the Reichstag, will be open to the public April 21-25 following its ofexpected to tour the futuristic glass dome and the interior of the neo-Renaissance structure, inaugurated in 1894 and re-designed by the British architect Norskyway inside the glass dome will remain open to the public. (AFP)

#### Correction

rectly, that Bulgaria is a Muslim nation. this nonsense, pure nonsense. The dominant religion is Bulgarian Orthodox Christianity, with about 13 per-clined to say what his next move might cent of the population practicing Islam. be.

#### **Marcos Compensation** To Filipinos Imperiled

Los Angeles Times Service LOS ANGELES - A tentative federal court senlement that would provide \$150 million in compensation for human rights victims of the former Philippines dictator Ferdinand Marcos showed signs of unraveling as the plaintiffs' lawyer sought in vain to strike a key paragraph

Court refused Monday to alter the setficial opening April 19, officials said tlement's language, warning an attorney, Tuesday. More than 100,000 people are Robert Swift, that he could 'wind up with zero" for his 9,539 Filipino clients.

Mr. Swift sought Judge Real's approval to delete a section in the set-tlement stating that Mr. Marcos's widman Foster. Afterward only the spiraling ow, Imelda, and their children have 'never been charged civilly or criminally with a human rights violation any-where in the world" and are "released fully" from any further claims by the plaintiffs in their class-action lawsuit.

'That clause doesn't mean anything An article in Tuesday's editions about to anybody," Judge Real shouted from the strategic importance of Macedonia the bench. "It doesn't mean anything to and regional concerns about the prospect. Mrs. Marcos. It doesn't mean anything of a Greater Albania implied, incor- to members of the class. "Let's stop all Outside the courtroom, the lawyer de-

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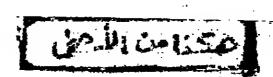


North America North America

Reiny and cool in the Warm air will surge northPacilic Northwest with ward into the British likes across Beijing Thuraday, snow in the Cascades, with a good deal of sunTurning unsettled in the shine Thuraday through some sun Friday and mild with Midwest and Great Lakes saturday. Stormy over Italy unday, Sunny and mild in region with rain Thuraday and Friday, perTokyo Thuraday and Friday, perTokyo Thuraday and Friday, perTokyo Thuraday and Friday, perTokyo Thuraday and Friday cool Saturday. Sunny and mild in pass drying out Saturday, perTokyo Thuraday and Friday cool Saturday. Sunny and mild in the East ThuraBertzy and warm in sourThuraday and Friday and British the sourThuraday and Friday and Saturday. Sunny and Great and InunderSaturday.

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#### THE AMERICAS

# Key Republicans Doubt Party's Budget Lid Will Stay Put

By Guy Gugliotta and George Hager Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Congressional Republicans have muscled make the numbers balance ont. through a budget proposal that sticks to strict spending limits and allows their party to east itself as the guardian of fiscal discipline. But the Republican subcommittee chairmen charged with carrying out the plan later this year have a message for

their colleagues: It won't work. Senior appropriators say their leaders have put them in a straitjacket. They must provide large in- chairmen of the House and Senate creases to fund Republican priorities

This is a zero-sum game, and ap-them even as they demand funding does, including programs as diverse resentative Harold Rogers. Repubpropriators warn that they will have for pet programs and projects. to make drastic, politically dangerbeloved projects and programs to

may suffer. Energy research may agencies. "You never say 'never,' if have to be abandoned, and funding for the National Institutes of Health

to terminate shipbuilding contracts. Interviews with most of the 26 in defense and education, absorb buge military emergencies such as Kosovo and still hold overall spending at least \$9 billion below last year.

appropriations subcommutees that fund the federal government revealed buge military emergencies such as widespread doubt that the caps can be maintained and exasperation with tonary funds that pay for the vast blind alley. "This plays into the colleagues who refuse to exceed bureaucracy and most of what it White House's scheroe," said Rep-

There's an awful lot of people something to get something," said as part of a strategy to bring the Commerce, Justice and State. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, budget within balance in five years. He noted that a year-end to Lawmakers may lose the bridges Republican of Colorado, chairman you can't follow through.

reduced. The Coast Guard may have propriations. Committee. Ted to terminate shipbuilding contracts. Stevens, Republican of Alaska. said: "I don't think we can live relief in Central America. under these spending caps.

as energy research, highway building and maintaining U.S. forces in the ous and, some say, unrealistic cuts in around here who don't want to give Balkans. They were imposed in 1997

Although the booming economy and highway overpasses that ease the of the subcommittee that funds the helped balance the budget four years path to re-election, the appropriators
Treasury Department, Postal Serahead of schedule, the caps have had such extraordinary power to say. Maintenance at national parks

Treasury Department, Postal Serahead of schedule, the caps have had such extraordinary power to dictate to the Republican-controlled ing to be too tight for lawmakers to Congress on spending bills. live with. The House has already The chairman of the Senate Aperoriations Committee. Ted month that included \$195 million to and should be maintained. reimburse the military for burricane

Appropriators said that by stick-

lican of Keotucky, head of the House appropriations subcommittee that funds the departments of

He noted that a year-end negotiation like the one last year was the only time that President Bill Clinton

A few senior appropriators, bowever, contend that the caps can

"We need this type of discipline," said Representative Sonny Callahan, Republican of Alabama,

#### POLITICAL NOTES

#### Clinton Seeks Hate-Crime Law To Cover Anti-Gay Offenses

WASHINGTON — Assailing "the persistence of old, eveo primitive harreds," President Bill Clinton asked Congress on Tuesday to expand federal laws against hate crimes to include offenses against homosexuals.

The president also directed the Education and Justice departments to collect and periodically publish data on hate crimes at colleges, including crime statistics as well as surveys on students' racial attitudes.

Mr. Clinton endorsed a public-private partnership de-signed to educate middle-school students against intolerance. The partnership will involve AT&T, Court TV, Cable in the Classroom, the National Middle Schools Association and the Anti-Defamation League working with the Justice and Education departments to develop curricula to combat intolerance. curricula to combat intolerance.

#### Fight on Health Care Brewing

WASHINGTON - The fight over bealth-care reform is likely to play a big role on the presidential campaign trail this year and oext because Democrats believe it is a clear winner for them. But Republican candidates do not plan to ignore the subject either.

The quality and availability of care offered by healthmaintenance organizations and other forms of managed care have become an issue of increasing concern to voters. The election is 18 months away, but candidates are already signaling how important they consider the issue.

Both Vice President Al Gore and Bill Bradley, a former Democratic senator from New Jersey, have promised to make reform of health-care programs a central issue in their campaigns.

#### Quote/Unquote

Greg Jeffrey, spokesman for Missourians Against Crime, as the state held a referendum Tuesday on whether citizens should be permitted to carry concealed weapons; The honest people of this state need to be able to defend themselves while going from their homes to their busi-

Lisa Pashia, 21, on the same issue: "I understand the constitutional right. But it scares me to think I might accidentally cut someone off with my two girls in the car and they fire at me in road rage. It's scary.

#### **Away From Politics**

 Drug charges have been brought against 11 DaimlerChrysler AG workers in Warren, Michigan, after a 16-month undercover investiga-tion. A forklift operator, William Sturkin, was charged with posses-sion with intent to deliver cocaine and beroin at a truck assembly plant where he has worked for more than

• Commercial shellfish growers were stunned by a U.S. Supreme Court ruling affirming the right of Indian tribes in Washington state to harvest shellfish on private beaches Growers contend that the ruling could "cripple or destroy" them by allowing tribal members to enter

•An animal rights group, the Animal Liberation Front, bas taken responsibility for ransacking research laboratories at the University of Minnesota and taking dozens of rats. pigeons, salamanders and mice. Computers were smashed, lab equipment was tipped over and mi-croscopes and photocopiers were wrecked. The animals were used to research cancer, Parkinson's and other diseases.

· A 22-year-old man accused of infecting girls and young women sile defense program, which had with the AIDS virus has been senbeeo projected to cost \$913 million tenced in Mayvilic, New York, to 4 through 2005, will require an adto 12 years in prison for knowingly ditional \$420 million over that time to 12 years in prison for knowingly spreading HIV through unprotected sex. Nushawo Williams struck a plea after only two of bis infected fice of Theater Air Warfare. partners agreed to testify. (AP)...



Judy Shepard holding back tears after her son's

## Gay's Murderer Gets Life Term

LARAMIE. Wyoming - A 21-year-old toofer has pleaded guilty to kidnapping and murdering a gay college student and has been sentenced to serve two consecutive life sen-

Escaping a possible death sentence, Russell Henderson was sentenced Monday by District Judge Jeffrey Donnell for his part in and another man pretended to be bamosexuals to lure Mr. Shepard to his death.

You are deserving the fullest punishkiller was sentenced to two consecutive life terms. days before opening arguments were to be-mony at Mr. McKinney's trial this August.

Shepard's sexual orientation, the judge said the murder was "part because of his life-style, part for a \$20 robbery." Mr. Shepard was found, barely alive, strung

gin in the case. In a sole reference to Mr.

up on a fence with his head bashed in and his face mutilated. He died five days later.

During the hearing. Mr. Heoderson turned to Judy and Dennis Shepard and apologized the beating and murder of the 22-year-old for murdering their son. Mr. Henderson then student, Mauhew Shepard, in Laramic six nurned on his former friend, Aaron J. McKinmonths ago. The police said Mr. Henderson nev. saying that Mr. McKinney was the mastermind of the Oct. 6 kidnapping of Mr. Shepard from a bar in Laramie.

Lawyers observing the case speculated that roent this court can mete out," the judge said, prosecutors had dropped their bid for a death after accepting a plea bargain agreement two sentence in return for Mr. Henderson's testi-

## Anti-Missile Program Sails Over Projected Cost

By Steve Vogel Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - A navy program to develop a shipboard antimissile system faces a cost overrun and Budgetary Assessments in of close to 50 percent, navy officials bave disclosed. Washington. "That's something that's going to get a lot of attention The navy's theater ballistic mis-

to remain on track, said Captain Paul Schultz, director of the navy's Of-

"That's a pretty significant cost

quite high, even by Pentagon standards," said Andrew Krepinevich, craft, director of the Center for Strategic

and not a lot of sympathy." The navy missile defense program is aimed at arming its fleet of Aegis cruisers and destroyers with high-altitude interceptor missiles to protect regions where troops are deployed. These interceptors would be equipped with warheads designed to destroy ballistic missiles outside the the Clinton administration.

increase," Captain Schultz said, earth's atmosphere. The intercept—The new cost estimates for the ors also could be used to defend more modest navy program aimed at ships and troops from enemy air-

> the idea of taking the shipboard theater defense system a step further and creating a national missile defense system, using an expanded Aegis fleet to defend the United States from attack by intercontinental ballistic missiles. Last month, a report from the conservative Heritage Foundation promoted the sea-based approach as being faster and cheaper than a land-based system planned by

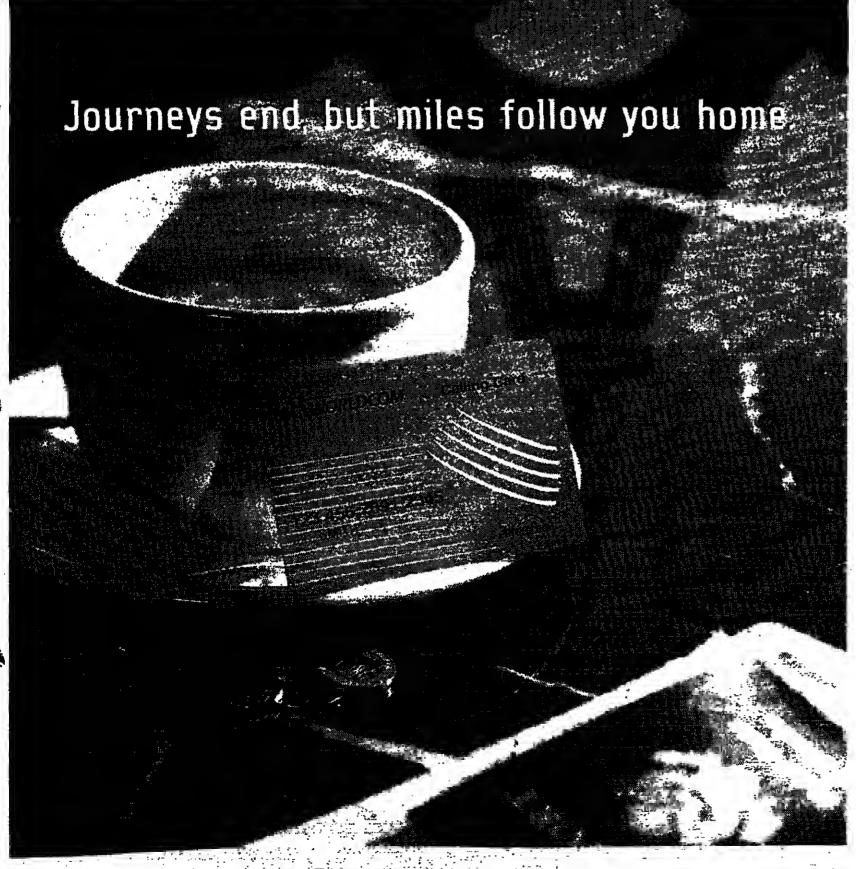
defending troops in the field may dampen some of the enthusiasm for Some defense experts have pushed a sea-based national missile-defense

> "People were looking at the navy as a prospective savior for missile defense," Mr. Krepinevich said. "This shows we're not likely to get missile defense on the cheap. We're looking at a national defense program that's going to be very expensive.'

Unless additional funding is approved, the navy theater missile de-fense program could be delayed or killed, navy officials said.

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# At Countless Albanian Homes, a Modern Miracle of the Loaves

By Peter Finn Washington Post Service

local news that the first refugees from Kosovo and towns of the Serbian province are safe. had arrived in this southern Albanian port city on

At dawn a week ago Thursday, Mr. Isufi was outside a Vlora soccer stadium, which had been converted to a temporary shelter for refugees. Stepping off a bus, after a grueling, mostly sleep-less 120-hour journey from the Kosovo city of The statistics are telling. Pec, was the Hazhiu family - 15 in all.

Mr. Isufi did not know them. He did not need Hazhius, and the businessman was busily turning every room in his single-story house into a bedroom. They will stay, Mr. Isufi said, until Kosovo

Without pausing to consider the cost or the

refugees. And the Kosovars are welcome, Al-VLORA, Albania - Arhmi Isufi heard on the banians say, until the war is over and the villages

> Nearly a quarter of a million refugees have entered Albania in the last 14 days. And Europe's poorest country, a potentially beautiful place blighted by poverty, lawlessness and the legacy of an austere communist past, has opened its

The statistics are telling.
According to the Albanian Ministry of Information, more than 130,000 Kosovo refugees 10. By 7 A.M., he was serving breakfast to the have found shelter in the homes of ordinary Albanians. The government estimates that there are now 122,000 people in the northern Albanian border town of Kukes, 32,000 sleeping in tents or

But an astonishing 90,000 have been wel-

town that normally bas a population of 20,000. Elsewhere in the country, 40,000 refugees are in Albanian homes, with 70,000 in tent cities or sports stadiums.

And every day more Albanians show up at shelters to offer a place in their modest bomes. "It is part of our tradition," said Ardjan men Musliu, spokesman for the Albanian Socialist six. Party and a member of Parliament, referring to the warm welcome. "And also, we have blood bouses again," said Mr. Rodoni, 69, a retired relations with the Kosovars."

Albanians share language, religion and culture with the Kosovars. Beyond that, there is an innate generosity here, a willingness to cut a loaf of bread into 20 slices if there are 20 who are hungry.

family ties. Myrtezaj Rodoni fled to Albania in forever. And we will return to Kosovo.

commitment, Albania — from dusty shanties to comed into local apartments, nearly five 1962 after spending seven years in Yugoslav jails city apartments — bas opened its doors to sheltered refugees for every resident of Kukes, a for advocating Kosovo independence. In the days after NATO began bombing he feared for the fate of his cousins from Pec. When they called him a week ago from the Albanian city of Maminas, 32 kilometers (20 miles) away, he hired a truck to bring them to Tirana. Now 18 cousins, ages 2 to 77, have squeezed into his three-bedroom apartment, sharing it with Mr. Rodoni's family of

> "I will keep them until they go their own elementary school teacher, "It's a strain but we will share our last piece of bread. We and the Kosovars are the same people, the same blood. If they are in Albania, they must be with us."

Some expelled families bave benefited from derstand that our Albanian family cannot keep us

Not everyone can fit a refugee family in typically small Albanian bouses and apartments, but kindness has a thousand faces here, from the doctors treating the sick in stadium dressing rooms to senior citizens making sandwiches for

the displaced. Marinela Lika, a 20-year-old student in Tirana, went to a refugee camp at a swimming pool park in the city Tuesday with five other students to find young Kosovar women to take out for a stroll

and some coffee. "They are so confined in this place," said Ms. This is a small way of showing our solidarity with their suffering.

And the refugees are deeply appreciative. "I can't find the words to describe how thankful I am." said Valdet Nila, 35, whose family of seven Melihat Sadiku, 39, Mr. Rodoni's sister-in-law from Pec, added: "We're lucky. We un-is living in two donated rooms at a botel. "One day we will do something good for this kind-

## Refugee Influx Forcing NATO To Readjust **Its Strategy**

By William Drozdiak

BRUSSELS - NATO's move to broaden the aims of its military mission in Yugoslavia by pledging 10 belp return bundreds of thousands of displaced people does not address the key question of whether combat ground forces would be used to spearhead such a return of refugees to Kosovo.

For the moment, NATO has pledged to use its forces and other international peacekeepers only to escort the refugees back safely, perbaps after the govern-ment of President Slobodan Milosevic bas yielded under the pressure of air

Senior NATO diplomats say events have overtaken the original purpose of the allies' bombing campaign, which was to coerce the Milosevio government into signing an interim peace accord that would grant Kosovo wide autonomy and permit a NATO-led peacekeeping con-

to Kosovo as quickly as possible — whether or not Mr. Milosevic sues for

mission proclaimed Saturday, there need not be a signed agreement with Belgrade before a peacekeeping force of NATO and other troops enters

Instead, NATO is calling only for a vaguely defined "political solution" in which the people of Kosovo would gain

When NATO launched its first attack against a sovereign country March 24, the justification for the air strikes was the need to prevent a bumanitarian disaster in the region. Other goals were getting Mr. Milosevic to halt the Serbian offensive in Kosovo and to sign an interim peace agreement, negotiated in Rambouillet, France, that would restore autonomy to Kosovo, where ethnic Albanians bad outnumbered Serbs by 9 to

On all three counts, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization bombing campaign statistics will at some stage go against so far has failed.

With the conflict now in danger of spreading in Southeastern Europe, the alliance has changed its strategic objectives and now seems to be scrambling to adjust its military tactics accord-

NATO's civilian spokesman, Jamie to resurrect a multiethnic community in one. Kosovo; to persuade Mr. Milosevic to withdraw government forces from the province and cease all repression; to secure guarantees that "all of the displaced persons, deportees, refugees" could return bome safely soon, and to other expanse of blasted urban trash, achieve a political solution based on the Rambouillet accords establishing "a Trivunca Street used to stand, far-reaching degree of autonomy" for "Voja and Radojka, they're far-reaching degree of autonomy

Mr. Shea emphasized that any settlement would have to include an international troop presence, at least tem-

Ground War Backed

Continued from Page 1

Washington and a former adviser on the

Balkans to President Bill Clinton.

'People realized what we were engaged

in was war and that the stakes were far

grander and far larger than the admin-

post-Vietnam reluctance to commit

ground forces in combat and a perception

that the American public will not tolerate

casualties on the battlefield. Some Re-

ground forces, but with Congress in re-

divided the legislative branch is about

what the administration should do next

forces, coupled with the grim images of

Kosovar refugees, has had an immediate

The drumbeat in favor of ground

Last week, CBS News found that 41

with 52 percent opposed. The Washington Post-ABC News poll, conducted

Monday, showed 5.5 percent in favor and

in the poll was plus or minus 5 per-

Dissenters have been few, despite a

**TROOPS:** 

istration painted them."

effect on public opinion.

centage points.

# Sector Air Del KOSOVO in Kosovo, the number of ethnic Albanians driven from their homes in the past year of conflict has usen to about 831,000, or about half the original population of the province, according to NATO, The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reports that as of Tuesday, 430,000 Kosovars had crossed borders, including 262,000 to Albania, 120,000 to Macedonia and 36,700 to Montenegro.

CROATIA

## Spy Photos Help Document the Tragedy

By Vernon Loeb

with Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro straining to handle the refugee influx, NATO military and political leaders say a key priority now will be to get the ethnic Albanians back to Keepe as quickly as possible.

WASHINGTON — When NATO briefers in Brussels handed out a spy photograph Monday showing Kosovo villagers who had been herded into an open field by Yugoslav troops, the people appeared as nothing more than tiny specks. WASHINGTON - When NATO tiny specks.

In addition, under the new NATO and reconnaissance aircraft. But in the same stroke they demonstrated the power of this tool in documenting the burnan tragedy unfolding in the embattled Serbian province.

did not make public but which were don't have access to an area," the ofshowed the village on fire with an empty inside Kosovo is estimated in the bun- and relatively small clusters of people. field where its people once stood. The dreds of thousands, and I don't think we Patrick Eddington, a former CL

stock Serbs out of their country.

lites, after focusing almost exclusively on Yugoslav air defenses and other military of "concentration camps" filled with targets, are now helping to document village atrocities and the movement of The minute forms in the photograph briefed at the start of each day by inclearly showed the limits of spy satellites telligence officials using satellite imagery to estimate the mounting refugee crisis inside Kosovo and along its borders,

'The full range of intelligence capabilities are being brought to bear on this issue - and these are extremely For subsequent images, which NATO important in circumstances where we

been emptied and torched in another has not thus far revealed signs of mass couple of days, given the weather.

in the sammer of 1995, according to one One senior U.S. official said spy satel- source. Spy photos have been unable as

Targets in and

tens of thousands of refugees, or to explain why military-age men from refugees in Kosovo. Another official said Kosovo have not been arriving at border a U.S. interagency task force is being points in as large a number as women and children, the source said.

If concentration camps have been set up inside Kosovo, intelligence experts said, KH-11 spy satellites, U-2 spy planes and Predator drones would have no trouble capturing such images. Indeed, KH-11 satellites are reported to be capable of distinguishing objects as small as six inches wide, meaning they described later by a NATO official, ficial said. "The amount of displacement are easily capable of photographing large

Patrick Eddington, a former CIA photographs, for all their remove and lack of detail, thus provided what analysts called "damning confirmation" would have as high a level of confidence in our estimates if we were just relying to that the village of Glodane, in southwest while hampered last week by expending the photo interpreter, said he had no doubt that U.S. intelligence was busy "trying to get a sense of bow many villages have been torched throughout Kosovo photo interpreter, said he had no doubt into effect Tuesday night as part of the land. Kosovo near the Albanian border, had tremely bad weather, U.S. spy imagery they'll certainly be able to do it in the next

#### raids, at least seven Serbs were killed and 50 were wounded when bombs hit a

NATO: It Rejects Milosevic's Truce Offer

In the first major instance of unintended civilian casualties from allied air housing complex southeast of Belgrade on Monday night. NATO officials ac-knowledged that the attack had missed

Continued from Page 1

its military target.
With the air offensive apparently hitting its stride, and reinforcements in-cluding Apache ground-attack helicopters on their way to Albania, the Serbian cease-fire announcement was

quickly dismissed in allied capitals. Our reaction is the same as yesterday," said the White House spokesman, Joe Lockhart, referring to a rejection of any deal with President Slobodan Milosevic short of compliance with allied demands on Kosovo.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Tony Blair said simply: "We won't fall

France also promptly rejected any pause in NATO's campaign that would leave Serbian armed forces in a position for renewed attacks.

domestic pressure for a political solution, Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema told a quickly convened news conferinstance of the 'ethnic cleansing' that executions inside Kosovo, as it was able ence that the Serbian move did not go far has driven some 400,000 Albanian to do in the Bosnian town of Srebrenica enough.

"I share the view of our allies that Belgrade's initiative of a temporary truce appears to be insufficient for a peaceful solution to the conflict to be found," Mr. D'Alema said.

Going further, President Jacques Chirac of France, in his second televised broadcast during the hostilities, said that plans for the systematic destruction of, one who owns a television set." the Serbian military machine in

Describing the hardships inflicted on facts about their leaders' actions in

Easter. Privately, NATO officials said that

Belgrade might have flinched if the Ser-

bian overture meant that President Milosevic was starting to feel the impact of the allies' air strikes. NATO governments also have indicated their intention of obtaining a clear military victory in Kosovo, an important

factor in preserving the alliance's military credibility. Credibility was a key political objective in the Western decision to confront Mr. Milosevic and nltimately to

attack his armed forces. The allied air campaign has fallen sbort of expectations in its first two weeks, largely because of weather, NATO officials conceded Tuesday, indicating that allied warplanes bad now started to fly at full strength because of secured and successful."
improved visibility and the crumbling of In his military briefi

In the most direct official confirmation yet of how badly the rain and low cloud hampered the allied campaign until now, Commodore Wilby admitted that NATO had "not achieved the level of damage we would have liked" in the

first two weeks of the offensive. If the Serbian cease-fire signaled Serbian anxiety, allied determination has bardened, officials said, under the impact of the rising tide of Kosovar refugees and their accounts of Serbian

brutality. U.S. officials bad predicted that Mr. Milosevic might want to try halting the war, now that be seems close to accomplishing his goal of changing the ethnic balance in large areas of Kosovo

What is driving the growing support for NATO is the sense of responsibility for forestalling human rights abuses and - perhaps with an eye to ultimate par-

tition of the old Serbian province. province's ethnic Albanian population hands of 'humanitarian hawks.' had been uprooted and that most of the

The number of displaced people is believed to exceed 1 million -- nearly 60 percent of the roughly 1.8 million ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

NATO officials said that most had been forced out of their bomes not by the hostilities or by fear of fighting but by organized intimidation by Serbs, who were said to be forcing people to sign from a hiding place that students had over their property titles as the price of

The Serbian cease-fire call was ac-Kosovo between Mr. Milosevic and Ibrahim Rugova, the moderate Albanian sealed train. representative from Kosovo - a man who conceivably would serve as the figurehead leader of a Belgrade-controlled government in Kosovo.

When Mr. Rugova reportedly held talks last week with Mr. Milosevic. Western officials said that the Albanian seemed to be acting under Serbian

He has not been seen since by any change for your homes."

outside officials except for a Russian diplomat.

Thousands of Kosovars continued pouring into the hills of the devastated province, overflowing the frontiers of surrounding countries and washing up elsewhere in the region as far away as

Some NATO units converted to relief work and international aid agencies sought to help local authorities provide food and shelter for the Kosovars.

But the Serbian truce offer coincided with a sense of rising political stakes, as the conflict entered its third week amid

reading devastation There have been calls in most Western capitals for a renewed effort to involve Russia again in the quest for a solution, and Moscow, after failing to get concessions from Mr. Milosevic last week, welcomed the Serbian cease-fire as a first step toward a possible diplomatic

But NATO's terms for a settlement have stiffened as a result of the refugee exodus and reports of Serbian brutality.

#### In Italy, where there has been strong EUROPE: Past Horrors Evoked

Continued from Page 1

permarient relief and decent resettlement

for the refugees.
"A NATO defeat would convince political psychopaths all over the world that they, like Slobodan Milosevic. could tyrannize a whole people and get away with it. Whether or not we should have started the war, we clearly have to the alliance would push ahead with its finish it. That must be obvious to every-

Earlier horror about seeing aerial combat return to Europe for the first time Describing the hardships inflicted on refugees as "beyond imagination, Mr. sovereign nation without the sanction of Chirac said that Serbia's people would the United Nations and dismay at aptum against their regime if they knew the pearances of bad planning and miscalculation in staging the attacks are being overwhelmed by concern over the Serbian television broadcast the refugees and revulsion at the way they cease-fire offer, saying that it would go have been coerced from their borne-

> Daily now across Europe there are announcements of government and private appeals to speed aid to the

Even countries like Britain and France with cultural reluctance to admit foreigners have had to respond to public pressure to provide temporary shelter for the refugees. But Mr. Blair and Alain Richard, the French defense minister, twinned these moves with aggressive statements about the need for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to persevere in the bombing.

Mr. Richard announced "even more intense attacks" by France's Mirage 2000-D fighter-bombers against the Milosevic regime, and Mr. Blair said. People have to be prepared to go on, have to be prepared for the longer haul in order to make sure that our objectives are

In his military briefing Monday, a NATO spokesman, Jamie Shea, stressed the alliance's commitment to caring for the exiles, saying that it was "fully mo-bilized" behind the refugee assistance effort, building campsites and running what he called a "humanitarian air bridge" ferrying aid into Albania and Macedonia.

Though there has been acknowledgment of the historic menace of Balkan instability to the other countries of Europe, the coming together of political will on the Continent has not been based on a perceived threat to national political and economic interests, the traditional threshold issue.

punishing those who commit them. A Guardian editorial said approvingly that Officials said Tuesday that most of the European policy was increasingly in the

had been uprooted and that most of the In Italy, where Prime Minister province's towns have been demol- Massimo D'Alema has given only ished.

The support to the bombing and called for a return to negotiations, public opinion has been swayed toward NATO through the dramatic reports of Antonio Russo, a broadcaster for a leftist radio

He stayed in Pristina, the capital of Kosovo, after other Western journalists left and managed to spirit out dispatches arranged for him.

He escaped on Friday and sent a detailed and impassioned report to the companied by claims of a deal on daily La Repubblica recounting his odyssey hidden among Kosovars in a

The detail that drew particular attention because it so closely recalled "Life Is Beautiful" was the harrowing moment when heavily armed Serbs forced women, children and the elderly. with Mr. Russo among them, onto the freight cars. As they herded them aboard, the Serbs said, 'Come on. you've won a free train ride - in ex-

### RAID: In a Mistake by NATO, Bombs Kill 7 in a Serbian Town

Continued from Page 1

us, and we will be exposed to a technical

Smilja Janic was another of those people so exposed. I have no idea why NATO is bomb-

ing us," she said, weeping and shouting in Dusana Trivunca Street, where a second NATO bomb ripped through Shea, bas said that the alliance's aims are more houses about 900 feet from the first "I'm not any kind of politician," she

said, standing in shards of glass and burnt-orange roof tiles. "I'm just an old woman and I don't understand." She gestured across the street to an-

where houses 56 and 58 Dusana "Voja and Radojka, they're probably

still in that house," she said, describing ber neighbors, who were teachers. "And Sofia and Jova, he was a policeman." "I could never expect this to happen

kid in World War II, and the Nazis just warwas real for me from the beginning," drove through town in their tanks. They she said. "But I couldn't ever believe my

didn't bomb us." Across the street, in the depths of the crater, a woman was wailing like a terrified animal, "You criminals!" she yelled, ber voice cracking. "What have you done to us?"

A policeman shooed a journalist 'Her parents lived there," be

In the crater, a seven of diamonds card retary of State Madeleine Albright, who lay half-buried next to what appeared to spent part of ber childhood in Belgrade be a child's collection of different brands of empty cigarette packets. There were some Serbian. Marlboro and Lucky Strike, Kent and Bastos, a Spanish brand.

An orange and yellow comforter draped crazily from an empty, shattered window frame; a red plastic telephone, cracked in half, ended up on top of a demolished Mazda.

'I don't have any feelings any more,' said Aleks Zivkovic, a 27-year-old who lives in the town. "I'm just empty." She tried to help a Greek journalist in this town," Mrs. Janic said. "I was a with translation, then turned back. "This Monday night was obvious.

town would be destroyed - it's small it's almost too small to be on the map." On Vuka Karadzica Street, Mrs. Stojanovic, a 62-year-old pensioner, bad drawn a small crowd. "Clinton Nazi!"

yelled one passerby. "Clinton will never kill the heart of Serbía," Mrs. Stojanovic said. Then she had some words for Sec-

with her diplomat father and who speaks Serbian air defenses. "Albright has no soul and no beart,"

she said. "She grew up with the Serbs and this is bow she pays us back." A blasted Mercedes was covered uniformly with a fine layer of orange-brown dirt, like a perfect paint job. Policemen and emergency workers swept up glass and prowled the rubble, searching for life as journalists prowled for pathos. No official tried to interfere with any interview. There was no need. What happened here

Los Angeles Times Service WASHINGTON - The cost to the United States of the two-weekold NATO air compaign against Yugoslavia already has exceeded \$500 million and is likely to skyrocket if the mission continues to escalate,

An estimate by the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, an independent research group in Washington, suggests that if the air strikes proceed for even a few weeks longer, the price tag quickly could grow to between \$2 billion and \$4 billion.

accepted as the best available. mainly reflects the cost of cruise missiles fired from U.S. ships and planes. The Pentagon has not issued its own cost projections.

mate does not include either the massive humanitarian aid program that the United States and its allies are beginning or the expense of providing peacekeeping troops and a military escort for returning



A French soldier serving with NATO shaking hands on Tuesday with a young boy in a refugee camp near the town of Kukes in northern Albania.

The poll, based on interviews with 509 randomly selected Americans, found ualties," said Andrew Kohut, director of that support for the NATO air strikes had the Pew Research Center for the People percent of those it surveyed supported risen from 55 percent last week to 68 and the Press." Support there now would ground forces to help end the conflict, percent. About two out of three - 68 evaporate if the specier of a quagmire percent - said that the air strikes would were to be evoked by Kosovo. not be sufficient to achieve NATO's goals and that ground troops would be would face skepticism from Americans if 41 percent against. The margin of error necessary to finish the job.

Analysts warned that the public still had reservations about using force.

"There's very linle appetite for cas-

Several analysts said the president still he decided ground troops were needed, if unly because the bombing campaign has been judged a failure.

#### U.S. War Spending: \$500 Million So Far

The center's calculation, widely

Moreover, the preliminary esti-

#### *EUROPE*

## **Arrest Warrant Issued** For Russian Executive

Berezovsky Wanted for Money Laundering

By Michael Wines New York Times Service

MOSCOW - Russia's chief prosecutor issued an arrest warrant Tuesday for Boris Berezovsky, the tycoon and political machinator who has taken a was in France, beyond the immediate sensational tumble from the graces of Russian high finance and of President Boris Yeltsin.

Officials in the prosecutor's office said Mr. Berezovsky and a former senior official of the Russian airline Aeroflot, Nikolai Glushkov, had been charged with money laundering and "illegal entrepreneurship" as part of a scheme that diverted Aeroflot's foreign currency proceeds to a Geneva-based company that they were said to control.

Mr. Berezovsky has long been said to be a dominant figure in Aeroflot, although he denies owning a single share of stock in either the airline or the Swiss company. The charges Tuesday, the first from a fusillade of recent government investigations of Mr. Berezovsky's business empire, would seem to signal that his days as a political and financial power are, at best, numbered.

But then, virtually nothing in Russia's house-of-mirrors government can of the Commonwealth of Independent be taken at face value these days. And States, the frayed alliance of most of the with the prosecutor's office itself at the nations that made up the old Soviet epicenter of a searny sex-and-black- Union. mail scandal, some suggested Mr.

staged event designed to keep that scandal from seeping further into Mr. Yeltsin's own inner circle.

That appears unlikely, though skeptics noted that prosecutors had chosen to issue the warrant while Mr. Berezovsky reach of the flaccid arm of Russian law. Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman said Tuesday night that the president had not known that an arrest warrant would be issued for Mr. Berezovsky.

For his part, Mr. Berezovsky greeted the warrant with contempt. He called his tormentors "shameless and dim-witted" and dismissed rumors that he would seek asylum rather than return to Communists — who made him a poster as a veiled warning from Mr. Russia to face criminal charges.

Sorting out the events swirling around Mr. Berezovsky and the government investigating him might befuddle even an ace sleuth like Hercule Poirot.

Mr. Berezovsky, an erstwhile car dealer who somehow parlayed cutrency trading into a huge fortune in the wild early days of post-Soviet Russia. was a principal backer of Mr. Yeltsin's 1996 re-election campaign and, at one time, a close adviser as well. A year ago, Mr. Yeltsin named him secretary



Boris Berezovsky, a Russian businessman, is facing arrest back home.

sian-style capitalism.

Among the investigators was Rus- too sia's prosecutor-general. Yuri Skuring. After Mr. Yeltsin sought unsuccessfully to fire Mr. Skuratov early this year - and the state-controlled television broadcast videotape of the prosecutor cavorting in bed with two prostitutes - Communists and some other critics accused Mr. Yeltsin's office of trying to quash inquiries into Mr. Berezovsky's dealings.

Berezovsky's downfall could be a power ebbed in recent years, he became private conversations between Mr. could not be enforced.

could bring down Mr. Yeltsin's family.

monwealth secretary, and outwardly the estrangement between the president and the tycoon appears real. And while Mr. Yeltsin recently ordered Mr. Skuratov removed from his post a second time, corruption inquiries under Mr. Skuratov's deputy seem to have con-

#### child for the seamy excesses of Rus- Berezovsky that efforts to topple him

But Mr. Yeltsin has since dismissed atov, who has strong Communist back- Mr. Berezovsky from his post as com-

> tinued apace. The Communist Party leader, Gen-

They have suggested that Mr. nadi Zyuganov, suggested Tuesday that Berezovsky holds secrets that could Mr. Berezovsky would never be arruin the Yeltsin presidency. And when rested and that the warrant issued But as Mr. Yeltsin's health and 'andio tapes surfaced this winter of against him had been timed so that it

## Mercy Flights Sharpen Debate Over Kosovars' Future

By Paul Horvitz

PARIS — Mercy flights carried the first wave of shaken refugees out of Macedonia on Tuesday, but tens of thousands of other ethnic Albanians remained massed on both sides of the Kosovo border, captives of cold weather, primitive sanitation and what critics said was obstructionism by the government of Macedo-

Several thousand refugees, many wearing mudcovered shoes, stumbled onto planes at the Skopjeairport late Monday and Tuesday, bound for Turkey, Norway and other European conntries. Radmila Kiprijanova, the deputy prime minister of Macedonia, said an airlift from the Macedonian capital to Turkey was carrying 3,500 refugees on 10 flights. A convoy of NATO buses was said to be shuttling the refugees down from the border. Most carried few belongings a piece of luggage or possessions thrown in plastic

But reports from Skopje indicated that a tense atmosphere prevailed, with some reluctant refugees being put on planes for Turkey without being told where In France; Prime Minister Li

they were going, for fear of triggering protests.

In London, the British aid minister, Clare Short, just back from Macedonia, bluntly declared that the Macedonian government's policy of accepting only the million), number of refugees that other countries take off its "Our bands was "unacceptable."

She warned of "mass death at the border," where refugees are crowded in "horrific" sanitary condi-

The United States, meanwhile, said that as many as 20.000 Kosovo refugees would be housed at the U.S. military base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

een under consideration for the emergency shelter. About 135,000 refugees are in Macedonia, a former constituent republic of Yugoslavia, About 65,000 are blocked in a no man's land at Blace on Macedonia's border with Kosovo, the British Defense Ministry

A military base in the U.S. territory of Guarn had also

Elsewhere in Europe, including neighboring Al-ania, a sometimes emotional debate continued over whether to give temporary sanctuary to the refugees elsewhere in Europe or aid them in the Balkans

Defense Minister Rudolf Scharping of Germany said a first group of 700 refugees, mostly orphans, the old and sick, were expected to be flown in Wednesday. The Defense Ministry denied reports that Germany would accommodate 40,000 Kosovo Albanians, saying a total of about 10,000 would be accepted.

Spain will take in between 7,000 and 10,000, El Pais newspaper reported. Slovakia is ready to accept 1,000 Kosovars, and Prime Minister Ivan Kostov of Bulgaria In France, Prime Minister Lionel Jospin's gov-

erament would not specify how many refugees it would accept but announced a tripling of aid to Albania and Macedonia to a total of 225 million francs (\$36.7 "Our country is naturally available to temporarily welcome on its soil a certain number." Mr. Jospin said,

but this must be "on the basis of voluntary participation. without people and families being separated."

Belgium could play host to several thousand refugees, Defense Minister Jean-Pol Poncelet said. Sweden announced that it would take 5,000 refugees province of Kosovo itself.

instead of the 1,500 originally planned.

Fearing that the refugees may never return to Kosovo fulfilling the apparent aim of the Yugoslav leadership in driving them out - the Albanian government protested plans to settle many of the refugees elsewhere and agreed to accept more in Albania, one of Europe's poorest nations.

"Albania doesn't want to be part of the ethnic cleansing mechanism which is forcing ethnic Albanians out of Kosovo," Information Minister Musa Ulqini said.

NATO has stressed that while the goal is for the refugees to return to Kosovo, the alliance wants to take pressure off neighboring states by providing temporary

homes for as many as 100,000 of them.

The European Union, meanwhile, was holding an emergency meeting of interior ministers Wednesday in Luxembourg to assess the options. A spokesman said Tuesday that the clear preference of most nations was

to contain the refugee flow close to Kosovo. "There are very strong logistical problems," the spokesman said. "It becomes a nightmare."

The Swiss government proposed a "cash for shelscheme to compensate families in the Balkans fighting age, who were led away and who take in refugees from Kosovo.

Sadako Ogata, the UN high commissioner for refugees, again blamed the Yugoslav leadership for the crisis, saying that the tide of refugees had been "forced, planned and directed" and aimed at destroying the

collective identity of the population of Kosovo.

The UN agency estimated that more than 430,000 people had fled Kosovo since NATO strikes began last month, with 262,000 refugees in Albania, 120,000 in Macedonia and the rest in Montenegro and elsewhere. It said there were 260,000 displaced people within the

## For Centuries-Old City, Ruin Came in Just Days

By Karl Vick

ROZAJE. Yugoslavia — li began with a throaty rumble, as the tanks lurched out the front gate of their compound and onto the darkened street. Moving into position, they pointed their barrels into the heart of Pec, Kosovo's second-largest city, and opened fire.

It takes centuries to build a city like. Pec, but Serb-led military forces would prove it can take just days to destroy it. Not since World War II has Enrope hold of the Kosovo Liberation Army, the seen entire cities purged of the people secessionist ethnic Albanian rebel

within them. But beginning within hours movement whose roots in the city were of the first NATO air strikes on not deep, "In the town it was quiet," Yugoslavia on March 24. Yugoslav Iroops, Serbian police units and paramilitary groups forced 80,000 ethnic Albanians - Pec's entire non-Serb population - to flee, all the while looting. shelling and burning their shops and

The assault on Pec foreshadowed the emptying days later of Pristina, the capital of Kosovo and its largest city. And it provided the first signal to the region of the scale of the refugee crisis that would soon engulf it.

It also adds to mounting evidence, gathered from the testimony of refugees and the analysis of Western officials, that the mass expulsion of Kosovo's was a premeditated act, systematically carried out and timed to begin as the first NATO bombs fell.

By March 28, four days after the expulsions began, refugees from Pec began arriving here at the border of Montenegro. Serbia's much smaller sister republic in the Yugoslav federation. Their individual accounts of survival and flight from Pec blend into a common story of the destruction of their city. It begins with the tanks.

Ba-boom, the whole night. This was the music, ' said Jauna Higiena, who cowered in the basement of her family home day and night in the Kapishnisca, an ethnic Albanian neighborhood. To venture into the street during a full was to risk being shot.

The shelling continued for several days, terrorizing the population. People kept the curtains drawn and their children quiet and awaited the armed men.

The roundup itself followed, and it was hy turns methodical and anarchic. Troops wearing green went door to door ordering the occupants into the street. Police wearing blue directed the throng into the city center. The paramilitary groups who moved between them but answered to no one wore gray camouflage, ski masks and fingerless gloves. They kicked in doors and demanded money and gold, and sometimes they took custody of men of have not been seen since.

"We were not allowed to look around, or to look back," said Isa Rame, 49, of the stunned huntan column he joined with only the clothes on his back. My daughter is 18 years old. She looked back and said, 'It seems our houses are on fire."

Pec - in Serbian it is pronounced 'Pesch'" - straddles the Bistrica River in western Kosovo. Its old city is a maze of cobblestone streets lined with the shops of goldsmiths who fashioned the jewelry that Kosovo Albanians collect partly for beauty, mostly as life savings. The Albanians, who call the city where they have lived for centuries ."Peje,"

were an overwhelming majority there, as they were throughout Kosovo, a Serbian province. Although most residents of Pec are Muslims, they speak admiringly of the Orthodox Christian monastery on the edge of town, with its gorgeous view of the plain and the mountains rising at the border with Montenegro, barely 50 kilometers (30 miles) away.

Until two weeks ago. Pec had largely been immune from the ethnic conflict that had torn at Kosovo for the past 13 months. The countryside was a strongnot deep, "In the town it was quiet," Lumtunje Arifaj said. "In the villages it was something else, but in the town it

All through the night of Wednesday. March 24, the tanks fired from just 300 yards away, sending shells over Jauna ligiena's house into town. The rounds left phosphorescent trails in the sky. On the other side of the house, police in a nearby station fired on a mosque, shattering its windows. When morning came, Ms. Higiena tried to go to work. A soldier

on the street told ber to go back inside. That night, shots peppered the house. Ms. Higiena, her mother, two brothers and sister crawled out the back door and made their way on their hands and knees majority ethnic Albanian population to a garden shed, In the morning, she was allowed to go to work, on streets empty except for her. Her boss sent her home. The shelling resumed at 3:30 P.M.

'You couldn't see anything but fire and smoke," Ms. Higiena said. "All the houses were burning."

Across town, in a subdivision he built, Beke Zekaj was gathering his family. A successful businessman with a cable television company in Pristina, he was also a member of the Democratic League of Kosovo, an ethnic Albanian political organization that supports independence for Kosovo through peaceful means, When the shelling began, he said, he called "my members," All agreed they were not armed for a fight.

The homes of ethnic Albanian political activists would be the first torched, along

with the shops of the old city, the center of ethnic Albanian commercial life.

By the weekend, the expulsion was proceeding in full force. The soldiers came to Ms. Higiena's street on Sunday morning. She had seen people rushing by the previous day, "We don't know where we are going," someone told her, "We are just going. We just wanted to save our heads," When the soldiers arrived at 10:30 A.M., Ms. Higiena's family tumbled into the throng. It was moving toward the center of town.

"We had to choose the bus to Montenegro or to Albania," Ms. Higiena said. But she kept looking are trying to find her brother. The people in the street had warned that men were being separated from women and children, a process she understood as a pre-

lude to mass execution. "I am very much attached to my brother," she said, and yet soniehow they had become separated. She was on the bus to Montenegro, thinking she would rather die with him than live without him, when she heard his voice. "I couldn't believe it," Ms. Higiena

The journey to Rozaje, normally a half-hour by car, took eight hours. The road through the mountain pass was a

#### BRIEFLY

#### Continued from Page 1 Swiss Family Joins

Tunnel Fire Inquiry BONNEVILLE, France - The family of a Geneva resident who died in a fire in the Mont Blanc tunnel has joined the judicial investigation into the blaze, which killed at least 40 people, a French state prosecutor said Tuesday. As a civil party to the case, which

could lead to mansianghter charges, the Swiss family will be able to sue for damages once responsibility for the fire has been determined.

A total of 43 people have been reported missing in the fire, which raged for two days. Forty bodies have been recovered, but only seven have been identified.

#### Kiev Lawmakers Bar NATO Rebuff

KIEV - The Ukrainian Parliament rejected a motion on Tuesday calling on the government to sus-

pend cooperation with NATO. Only 191 lawmakers in the 450seat Verkhovna Rada backed a resolution that assailed NATO for the "aggressive character" of its air

strikes in the Kosovo conflict The motion was introduced by leftist lawmakers to protest air strikes against Yugoslavia. The Rada proposed that Ukraine's nuclear-free status be reconsidered in response to attacks on Serbs. (AP)

#### Kurd Said to Offer A Deal to Turkey

ANKARA — The imprisoned Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan has reportedly offered to call on his guerrillus to surrender in exchange for a pardon for himself, according to a Turkish newspaper.

Mr. Ocalan's offer was reported Tuesday by the newspaper Sabah, a week after he reportedly disap-proved of a recent outburst of attacks attributed to Kurdish groups

seeking to avenge his capture. Calls to prosecutors seeking their comment were not returned. (AP)

### **REFUGEES:** Anxiety and Fear Spread as Families Are Split Up

Serbian police have announced that Kushtriun Hoxha, a drama smdent who escaped the city Monday.

Only women are allowed to go out shopping for bread, and ethnic Albanian men spend day and night inside their apartments, Mr. Hoxha said.

"I cannot tell you what is going on because I never went ont in 12 days," he Etrit, a young man who spent days

waiting to get out to Macedonia in a convoy of 10 cars with his parents and brother, was ordered back by police Monday. Two cars got through the border when suddenly the rest were ordered

Etrit, who declined to give his full name, said that he thought the sudden

their bomes. Those who have managed to pash deep into the Blace refugee camp, away from the Serbian side, are still gripped with fear.

After waiting for hours to register and fighting their way out of the camp. where many have been trapped for days, they are then pushed into buses and sent off into the unknown.

Families are being separated in the muddle, and people are being sent straight to the airport and bundled onto planes, whether they want to be or not. Always behind them are anned Macedonian police, pushing them on and hurrying them up.

turnaround could have been a stunt for carrying a baby in his arms was folthe benefit of the press, connected with lowing a women and two children on to announcement by President one bus, only to have the door slammed they will shoot on sight any person walk-ing alone in the streets of Pristina, said all Kosovar Albanians could return to policeman. The woman's screams could be heard as the bus pulled away toward a

> waiting plane. Foreign doctors working in the camp in Blace said that the refugees, already severely traumatized by their experience of being chased at gunpoint from their homes, were now in terror of their uncertain future.

Pierre Michelem, director of operations for Medecins du Monde, said: "The people are greatly worried about where they are going. The authorities are not bothering to keep families united. People are being separated in different buses, and they do not want to be sep-arated. There is great anxiety. They do not want to leave the camp because they At the airport Monday evening a man do not know where they will be sent

## 'Paper Curtain' Snags Kosovo Refugees

By Peter S. Green

USTINAD LABEM, Czech Republic - As hundreds of thousands of ethnic Albanians flee Serbian troops to an uncertain future in poor neighboring countries or in refugee camps in distant lands, a smaller exodus is unfolding here in the economically depressed industrial cities and devastated forests along the Czech-German border.

Hundreds of Kosovo Albanians try Czech borders to get to the wealthy points and, as a Yugoslav citizen, he was economies of Western Europe, where able to cross legally into Hungary. many have relatives.

find that the Iron Curtain along the patrol stopped him. Czech-German border has been replaced by a "paper curtain." They are shunted back to cheap hotels and refugee shelters in NATO's newest

But without visas and documents they

members, the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary, which are unable to cope While West European nations and the United States have pledged to take many

the Balkans. Specialists on refugees say the situation may well be a foretaste of what will happen as many of those left behind strive for a new life in the West,

donin and Albania, most will be left in

industrial city on the banks of the Elbe walk outside the barracks. River, Mobammed, an automobile painter in his 30s, smokes a cigarette and strike to protest conditions in the Huntells a tale much like that related by dozens of other Kosovars. On Jan. 3, as fighting neared his home like conditions," one official said.

village of Lipjan, near Pristina, Mo-hammed left Kosovo, hoping to join a brother in Germany. For the equivalent of a few thousand dollars, a "people smuggler" took bim every week to cross the lightly guarded in a van through Serbian police check-

> However, while walking through a forest into Austria, an Austrian border Mohammed said he asked for asylum

but, although Austrian laws require that the previous day. his request be heard, he was summarily turned back to Hungary There, he was beld in Nyirbutor, one of several camps that refugee officials

say are little better than prisons. There were bars on the windows, barbed wire around the camp, there was person I know is my brother, so I'll try to of the refugees now stranded in Mace- no medical care, and the Hungarians sprayed tear gas at women who wanted to take their children outside," Mo-

hammed said. "The Hungarians treat us like animals, not people, in those camps,"

Outside the bleak concrete bulk of the Hotel Garni, in a grimy suburb of this hunger strike in a bid to be allowed to

Earlier, there was another hunger garian camps. "These are prison-like or detention-

government doesn't have all the money it would like." Released from the Hungarian camp. Mohammed paid a smuggler to take him through Slovakia and the Czech Republic to Germany, but the German border police caught him just inside Ger-

"These centers are substandard, but the

many and sent him back. Mohammed showed a visitor a fiveday Czech temporary visa that had ordered him to be out of the country on

Biding his time until he could try the border crossing again, he said he would not ask for asylum in the Czech Re-"What's the point?" he said. "I don't know where my family is. The only

cross again to Germany." For 17-year-old Avdulla Ademi, Germany was unightmare. Fleeing shooting in Kosovo, he left his mother and brother to sneak over the Czech border into Germany, where his father had already his money will not last long. applied for asylum,



Two ethnic Albanians mulling their plight Tuesday at a refugee camp in Tirana, one of two where some 8,000 people have spent up to a week.

He asked German authorities for to my father." asylum, and a week later two policemen came to his father's door and took Avdulla to à detention center, where he was fingerprinted and deponed to the

Czech Republic. Nnw he, too, lives in the Hotel Garni, alone and scared. For weeks he has had no news of his mother and brother, and

Czech authorities are overwhelmed

by the refugee flood.

Last year the police caught 44,672 people illegally crossing the country's borders, and 16,052 of them were from Yugoslavia, mainly ethnic Albanians,

We probably catch one in five who get across," said Karel Freund, director of the Czech Foreigners and Border Area "All I want to do," he said, "is to go

## Trying the Lockerbie Suspects

The surrender of two Libvan iotelligence agents brings the long and frustrating search for justice in the Lockerbie case near an acceptable end. It is more than 10 years since a bomb concealed in luggage brought down Pan Am Flight 103 in Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270 people, and more than eight years since a U.S. grand jury indicted the two men on charges of having personally planted the explosive.

The two suspects will now be tried in the Netherlands under Scottish law, in a diplomatic compromise that satisties all essential American and Brittsh requirements.

United Nations sunctions played a large part in forcing Colonel Moammar Gadhafi to yield the two suspects. So did the agreement last year by Britain and the United States, after Libva urged that the men be tried in a neutral country, to accept a trial in the Netherlands. But Washington and London rightly insisted on the use of Scottish law.

As part of the compromise, Libya has gained provisional relief from UN

sanctions against Libyan air travel and imports of industrial equipment, and from a partial freeze on Libyan assets abroad. These will be fully lifted in 90 days if the UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, can certify that Libya has agreed both to stop sponsoring terrorism and to compensate the families of Lockerbie victims if the two men are convicted. Separate American sanctions against Libya remain in place.

Earlier this year Mr. Annan. with American approval. assured Colonel Gadhafi that only the two suspects, not the Libyan government, would be put on trial. In a literal seose, that is as it should be. But Mr. Annan's assurance should not preclude questioning about who might have ordered the suspects to carry out the bombing. There remain many unanswered questions about the Lockerbie case, including whether Syria or Iran may also have played a role. The trial should be used to establish a fuller picture of this criminal enterprise than is now available.

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## **Undoing Ethnic Cleansing**

With his evil campaign against the people of Kosovo, Slobodan Milosevic has created a problem and a challenge that NATO did not anticipate. Whether NATO should have known better, and who is responsible for its failure of anticipation - these are legitimate questions. But what maners most now is that NATO adjust to the new reality and make clear that it will undo Mr. Milosevic's handiwork, no matter how long it takes. NATO should not act in panic, taking steps that could make matters worse. It must respond with steadiness and a determination to prevail.

Prevailing means, first, ensuring the safe return of all Kosovars to their homes and providing a safe environment for them to exercise self-govemment and begin to rebuild their lives. Mr. Milosevic's forces have now displaced about half of Kosovo's pre-war Albanian population, driving several hundred thousand across the border. He has employed tactics rarely seen since Hitler and Stalin perfected them; massacres, women and children stuffed into boxcars, villages and towns burned and looted. As a result, public opinion increasingly supports U.S. rullitary action; 58 percent approve of U.S. air strikes and 54 percent would support sending ground troops to make peace. according to a new Newsweek poll. Europeans have been similarly moved.

What it will take to undo Serbia's ethnic cleansing is not clear, nor is there any reason for NATO to spell out its intentions to Mr. Milosevic. Certainly, President Bill Clinton should abandon his pledge not to send troops into a "non-permissive" environment that commitment provided needless comfort to Mr. Milosevic, NATO should begin preparing for all contingencies, including the deployment of a ground force to for many years to come. escort the Kosovars home.

In the meantime, the air campaign should be intensified. NATO has been too slow to go after the tanks and other forces that are directly attacking Kosovo civilians. But with each passing day, as Serbia's air defenses diminish and NATO's political will suffens, the bombing campaign should become more effective. It is too soon to judge its ultimate effectiveness.

The Rambouillet peace plan, for which NATO ostensibly went to war, is no longer tenable. It would have allowed Mr. Milosevic to police Kosovo's borders and to stadon 5,000 or more troops inside the province. Giveo his forced depopulation of Kosovo. such an arrangement now would constitute a victory for him, allowing him to prevent the return of refugees and to terrorize those who did come home, Yet if NATO is not clear on this maner, Mr. Milosevic could weaken alliance unity by offering to accept Rambouillet once he has completed his ethnic cleansing. Mr. Clinton and his colleagues should leave no doubt that Serbia has forfeited any claim to help govern the territory that it is now laying waste.

Prevailing in this contest may take time. That means NATO should better anticipate and deflect Mr. Milosevic's next moves as the conflict proceeds; support for Montenegro, Macedonia and Albania is particularly crucial. It means NATO must do a better job in caring for the refugees until their return can be ensured, for humanitarian reasons and to relieve the political burden on Serbia's neighbors. And it means that the administration must fully involve Congress as the campaign unfolds. Mr. Milosevic has shown himself to be a war criminal of fierce determination. NATO must respond accordingly or pay a price

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

## Russia's Role in Kosovo

The road to peace in Kosovo may yet run through Moscow. Despite Russia's rhetorical belligerence about the NATO air campaign and Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov's failed diplomatic mission to Belgrade last week, Russia has the credentials and motivation to play a constructive role in ending the conflict.

Doing so will require some straight talking by the Russians to their Serbian cousins, and a degree of cooperation with Washington that may be awkward for the Kremlin, but Russia could greatly enhance its international stature by brokering a political senlement.

For now, Slobodan Milosevic may think he has linle reason to consider a diplomatic solution, and he did not seriously entertain one in his talks with Mr. Primakov. The Serbian assault on Kosovo has driven a million ethnic Albanjans from their homes, and NATO air attacks have done little to impede the Serbian brutality in Rosovo or diminish Mr. Milosevic's military forces.

But this conflict must not end with Kosovo permanently emptied of its citizens. NATO air power will evennally begin to hobble the Serbian military and weaken Mr. Milosevic's stranglehold оп Kosovo. If Mr. Milosevic concludes that the balance of power is shifting in NATO's favor, he will doubtless start looking for a deal that allows him to remain in power. If Mr. Clinton and NATO suck with their wise decision not

to commit troops to a potentially costly ground war in Kosovo, they, too, will be

looking for a negotiated resolution. Because of Russia's longstanding friendship with Serbia, Mr. Primakov is among the few world leaders who has the standing in Belgrade to tell Mr. Milosevic he must end his subjugation of Kosovo, withdraw all his forces and permit the repatriation of the ethnic Albanians. Kosovo must also be granted at least the same degree of political autonomy it enjoyed until 1989. All this would be easier for Mr. Milosevic to accept if it were endorsed by the Russian government, and came with a promise that Russian troops would participate in

an international peacekeeping force.

Moscow favored most of the elements of this plan before the NATO air offensive began, and ought to overcome its resistance to the peacekeeping force now that Serbia has demonstrated such savagery in Kosovo. The NATO air strikes have stirred anti-Western sentiment in Russia, limiting Mr. Primakov's latitude as he looks ahead to parliamentary elections and a possible presidential race. But both Mr. Primakov and President Boris Yeltsin well understand that Russia's economic and diplomatic interests are best served by working with the United States and Europe. Washington should be encouraging a constructive Russian role.

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.

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# The Bombing May Not Prevent a Wider Balkan War

ONDON - NATO's plan to airlift L ONDON — NATO's plan to authr 100,000 refugees now streaming across the horders of Kosovo into Alhania, Macedonia and Mooteoegro is a much needed measure. And it is appropriate that some NATO members — including the United States. Germany and Turkey — have offered to put up limited numbers of refugees in temporary camps.

Alas, oone of this will come close to solving the problem, since the total number of refugees already exceeds 350,000, with thousands more on the way. And it will do little to ease the most pressing crisis in the Balkans: the political instability of Kosovo's neighbors, which threatens to turn a civil war into a regional disaster.

Albania, the poorest country in Europe, has an exceptionally weak government. The northeast, where the refugees are arriving, is the most un-developed part of the country. The water and electricity supplies are erratic, and the roads are in terrible condition. How can Albania support refugees who continue to flow in at a rate of about 1,500 an hour, bringing sickness and disease with them?

Montenegro, which along with Ser-bia is all that remains of the Yugoslav federation, is also in a precarious situation. The presence of refugees is likely to erode support for the republic's em-battled president, Milo Djukanovic. He has been pursuing a pro-Western policy and is the only source of real opposition to Slobodan Milosevic in the region.

By Misha Glenny

But NATO's decision to bomh targets in Montenegro as well as in Serbia has swung popular support toward Mr. Milosevic, who has already removed Yugoslav officers suspected of sympathizing with Mr. Djukanovic and replaced them with Serb hard-liners.

However, it is in Macedonia that the arrival of refugees for a lengthy stay could have the most catastrophic consequences. Since its birth as a nation in 1992 this tiny land-locked country has been racked by internal conflict, with ethnic Albanians pitted against Macedonians, who are Slavs.

In addition, Macedonia remains the strategic hub of southeastern Europe. the only territory through which it is possible to cross the Balkan Mountains by land from north to south and east to west. As Otto voo Bismarck, the 19thcentury German chancellor (who held the Balkans in contempt), once said, Those who control the valley of the River Vardar in Macedooia are the masters of the Balkans." That analysis is still true today.

Macedonia's ethnic Albanians, who make up 25 percent of the population, live mainly in the west, which borders on Albania and Kosovo. There is also a large concentration in the capital, Skopje, however, and in the years before communism fell, the treatment of these people at the hands of Macedonia'a Communists was worse than that of

their neighbors in Kosovo. But since achieving independence, the Macedonian government has recognized that the Albanian minority must have greater rights and freedoms to ensure stability. So every recent Macedonian government has included several Albanian cabinet members and made strides toward addressing Albanian grievances, including improved schools and the

right to local self-governance. Nonetheless, there is considerable ethnic strife. Ordinary Macedonians view their Albanian neighbors as an implacable fifth column, scheming to. create a greater Albania, and resent even the smallest concession to the Albanians. Albanians, in turn, see Macedonians as part of a Slav plot to crush Albanian culture.

The Kosovo Liberation Army commands great respect among young Al-hanians. When Albania collapsed into chaos in 1996, the army's weapons depots were looted and many small arms were smuggled into Macedonia. The government of Prime Minister

Ljubco Georgievski is dominated by moderate Macedonian nationalists. While it is hostile to any attempts by Serbia to undermine stability, the govemment is also aware that in times of crisis many Macedonians look to Serbia for protection against what they see as an Albanian threat. The perception among Macedonians that NATO is acting as the Kosovo Liberation Army's air force is also driving popular opposition to the bombing of Serbia.

the West, the Macedonian authorities are not restricting the flow of refugees into their country out of a cynical disregard for their suffering. Macedonians are genuinely worried about the impact the refugees may have on the country's fragile domestic order. The presence of so many extra Albanians may well radicalize Macedonian nationalism and Albanian separatism, increasing the likelihood of war.

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NATO did not cause the exodus of Albanians from Kosovo. Still. its actions have worsened the problem. All NATO members - oot just the few countries that have come forward so far — are morally obligated to accept the great majority of refugees from Kosovo, because the small Balkan countries simply cannot cope with them. Sheltering the refugees would not serve the Serbs' hrutal program of ethnic cleansing, as some have suggested Most Albanians will eagerly return to Kosovo at the earliest opportunity.

But the political imperative is as pressing as the moral and bumanitarian one. If war breaks out between the Macedonian and Albanian communiues in Macedonia, President Bill Clinton's main reason for approving the NATO campaign—to keep the conflict from spreading—will have failed.

Mr. Glenny, author of "The Foll of Yugoslavio," is completing a history of Bolkan nationalism. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

## A Greater Albania Would Erase All Hopes for Peace in the Region

ATHENS — The NATO bombing appears to have exacerbated the problems it

was intended to ameliorate. Despite the damage and the degradation that the bombs have inflicted on his country, Yugoslav presideot. Slobodan Milosevic, who thrives on turbulence, has consolidated his authority and the Serhs are now more determined than ever to resist external attack, Has the decision that all NATO members approved contributed to a solution to Kosovo's plight, or has it ensured in any way the stahility of the adjacent region?

The stream of Kosovar refugees into Macedonia and Albania threatens these fragile states with destabilization.

By Thanos Veremis

In Macedonia, the tenuous balance between the majority Slavo-Macedonians and the Albanian Macedonian population. is at stake. At the same time, Albania, a fledgling democracy trying to establish its writ on its countryside, is threatened by an incursion of Kosovar Ghegs who might upset the balance between Albania's two clans, the Tosks of the south and the Ghegs of the north.

But the bombings are really about Kosovo. The Kosovar Albanians accepted the Rambouillet accord because their leaders grasped the opportunity for an autonomy guaran- on a NATO ground force for teed by the West. However, the the implementation of the acprospects of an autonomous cord in Kosovo.

status for Kosovo that would allow the Albanians to prosper within Serbia and even acquire a demographic edge in a few decades was not a welcome prospect for the Serbs. Mr. Milosevic's apparent priority had been to quell his rebellious province, or if that failed, to partition it and preserve for his

salvaged of the Serb heritage. Mr. Milosevic's opportunity to evade an autocomy agreement leading eventually to the self-determination of the entire province was provided by the insistence of the United States

country what could be

The present conflagration has just about canceled the possibility of cohabitation between the majority of Kosovo's population and Serbia NATO should at this stage consider the options between a protracted ground war in the region and a cease-fire that would possibly allow an orderly partition of Kosovo and the creation of a new Kosovo state. This eotity could become a UN trusteeship with two self-ruled regions of a five-year duration at the end of which they could evolve into a bizonal, bicommunal federation if they so chose. The security and viability of this state

members and its boundaries The prospect of a greater Al- International Herald Tribune.

could be guaranteed by NATO

bania, or the controversial issue of a potential change to international borders, can be precluded by maintaining the external houndaries of the former Yugoslavia along the precedent of Slovenia and Croatis. In other words, the putative Kosovo entity should not be permitted to unite with its Albanian brethen of the region.

If such a development emerged from the present turmoil in this region of the Balkans, then all hope will have been lost for pacification and development

The writer, president of the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, cantributed this comment to the

## Conscription Makes It Harder for Nations to Go to War

Washington — The greatest inhibition on a democratic leader's ability to wage war is the need to muster the support (and muffle the opposition) of the people for such a drastic action. The allvolunteer force has made it too easy for a president to order American troops and aircraft into wars and dangerous

'peacekeeping' adventures.
The political risks are greatly diminished when the enlisted ranks of the armed forces those brave and dedicated soldiers at greatest risk - are disproportionately minorities. such as African Americans, and the less advantaged, paid at such low levels that they live on the edge of poverty during America's greatest economic boom. To a great extent, this may explain the indifference of middleclass and affluent Americans to recent deployments of armed

By Joseph A. Califano

China Should Be Allowed Into the WTO

By Bart S. Fisher

malia and Grenada, and bomb-

BEIJING — There comes a time in trade policy when

the perfect becomes the enemy

of the good. This is such a

moment. Without further delay

China should be admitted to the

World Trade Organization, A

timetable to implement this de-

cision should be announced

when Prime Minister Zhu

ing assaults on Sudan and Iraq. service and avoid dying in the When President Lyndon jungles of Southeast Asia.

Johnson sought congressional Convinced that the burden of Johnson sought congressional support for the initial air raids and subsequent troop buildup in Vietnam, the House unanimously approved the Gulf of Tonkin resolution, and the Senate passed it by a 98 to 2 vote. Even though only the Democratic Senators Wayne Morse of Oregon and Ernest Gruening of Alaska dissented, Johnson was nonetheless wary of the political dangers that lay ahead.

At that time, the Selective Service System and the draft were alive and well. But in the early stages of the Vietnam buildup, deferments were available for anyone who went to college and on to gradoate school. Those exemptions gave in Washington in October

forces into Haiti, Bosnia, So- the affluent middle class a cushion on which to sit out military

Convinced that the burden of war fell unfairly on the poor and minorities who could not buy into the safe harbors of college and graduate school, Johnson sought a more equitable way to determine who shall serve when not all serve. In 1967 he asked Congress for authority to establish a lottery and end graduate school deferments. Congress gave him that power, and

he exercised it immediately. Suddenly the affluent middle class found their sons in harm's way, and all hell broke loose. They began to raise hard questions about the Vietnam War. Parents supported their children's enormous protest march

school deferments.

anguish over his decision to revamp the draft, for he fully appreciated the firestorm his action was likely to spark. The fact that every economic and social class stood at equal risk of being conscripted into the military ignited furious oppositioo to the war across a broad spectrum of Americans who believed that the national interest in Vietnam was not sufficient to

risk their sons' lives. The most momentous decision a president or a Congress can make is to send young men to war. A volunteer army relieves affluent, vocal, voting Americans of the concern that

U.S. leadership on the China

WTO accession issue will be

decisive. If America wants China in the WTO, Europe and

lapan will follow its lead. It is

now time to engage China in the

world economy to boost global

The writer, an attorney ond

adjunct professor of the Geor-

getown University School of

Foreign Service, contributed this comment to The Wash-

economic recovery.

ington Post.

1967, a few months after John their children will be at risk of son had eliminated graduate going into combat. That makes school deferments. Living through that tumul- embark oo dangerous foreign mous period on the White adventures without thinking House staff and being one of the through every downside and fastrongest proponents of the new cing nagging questions from

> I do not question the sincerity of the president or members of Congress who support the Kosovo deployment to stop the ethnic cleansing by the Serbs. But with votes so close in Congress and such serious doubts about the wisdom and morality of the policy, we would all be much more comfortable that the administration and its supporters in Congress had thought through the consequences of our involvement if they had been required to make their decisions and cast their votes with a military drawn from every segment of society, instead of one disproportionately made up of the

less advantaged. In a democratic, egalitarian society, all citizens, no matter bow thick their fathers' wallets and their mothers' pocketbooks. should be subjected to the same obligation and risk of serving

their nation in armed conflicts.

There is no better way to end the indifference of our people. get their timely attention and put pressure on our leaders io answer the hard questions before the takeoff instead of after the landing.

The writer was President Lyndon Johnson's special assistont for domestic offairs. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

#### IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

#### 1899: Bloomer Battle

LONDON - The "battle of the hloomers," as the test case has been called which was brought by Viscountess Harberton against Mrs. Sprague for refusing to serve her with refreshance and financial services in ment, on the ground that she order to join the WTO and its was wearing "rational costime" bas not proved a test extravagant indulgence. States is now a service econ- case after all. For the defence it was urged that Mrs. Sprague agreed to give ber what she wanted in the bar parlor, but Lady Harberton refused to sit there, because workmen were standing drinking and smoking. It was submitted that no guest had any right to select any particular room. The jury found Mrs. Sprague not guilty.

1924: Meat Abuse

PARIS - [The Herald says in an Editorial: ] Almost all hygien-

of bodily ills. The Department of, Agriculture has found that every American ate last year nearly half a pound a day. The peasants of France regale themselves with meat much more freely than formerly. It argues two things: that meat is more plentiful; and that the greater abundance of paper money tends to

#### 1949: Churchill's Suit LONDON 12 - Winston Churchill's "siren suit" brought

a sneer from London's style savants. Mr. Churchill, garbed in something closely resembling a pair of baggy summer flying . overalls predicted that it would be the dress of the future. The magazine "Tailor and Cutter." which has been setting men fashions since Victorian times. said the war-time Prime Minister was "off the mark there." ists are agreed that excessive. The "siren suit" lacks artistic appearance, the magazine said.

## Herald Eribune

MICHAEL GETLER, Executive Editor

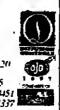
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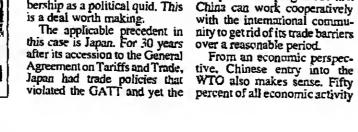
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international community adopt- in China is now in private ed a policy of commercial engagement with Japan. As counsel for the U.S. rice industry for 10 years, I fought the exclusion of foreign rice from Japan. which violated the GATT. And

Rongji meets this week with yet it was good to have Japan inside the GATT, which per-President Bill Clinton. In a perfect world, we would mitted the issue to be raised in a have every right to insist that multilateral context, subject to sanctions from all GATT mem-China's international trade regime mirror the WTO norms of bers, rather than in a bilateral nondiscrimination. national dispute that could have poisoned treatment, open trade and transparency. But exclusion of China from the WTO in the meantime does not serve the

political or economic interests of the United States. China is a great power, rep-resenting one-fifth of humanity. The United States needs to work with China in many areas, including support of the Asian economy, the crisis in Kosovo. regional nuclear arms control in India and Pakistan, and controls over North Korea's nuclear program. Trade policy does not exist in isolation. Trade policy

is foreign policy.
If the United States expects China to not engage in the current round of compentive currency devaluations in Asia, it should deliver WTO membership as a political quid. This

U.S.-Japanese relations. The United States should include China in the WTO, precisely because it will be able to engage China multilaterally in what has become since 1994 a highly effective WTO disputeresolution process. China has many tariff and nontariff barriers to trade, ranging from a lack of transparency to high duties and blatantly protectionist standards used to keep out U.S. tobacco, wheat, frun and vegetables. China's accession to the GATT

mote their elimination. It would be a mistake to insist that China eliminate all such barriers before WTO admission. What is required is a schedule that provides a program so that China can work cooperatively with the international community to get rid of its trade barriers

would expose its protectionist

practices and more rapidly pro-

over a reasonable period. From an economic perspec-

tive. Chinese entry into the

WTO also makes sense. Fifty

hands. Participation in the WTO would provide a lifeline to the reform-minded leaders of China such as Mr. Zhu, who have been attempting to link China to the West.

China's economic growth has slowed and will slow more as a result of its delays in making Y2K computer conversions, but it remains the key to Asia'a economic situation. To reverse the decline in China'a growth, exports and foreign investment, China must become more efficient, which accession to the WTO would ensure.

U.S. exporters of goods, services and capital also would benefit from Chinese accession to the WTO. China would be required to open such markets as telecommunications, insurservices code, The United omy, with 80 percent of its gross domestic product in services. These enterprises would benefit if China were forced to comply with the WTO principles of national treatment and

nondiscrimination. Perhaps the greatest beneficiary of Chinese accession would be high-technology enterprises requiring protection of their property rights in China, including producers of software, movies and book publishers. Accession to the WTO woold bring China to the negotiating table in this crucial area.

meat-eating causes a multitude

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OPINION/LETTERS

## **Changed Perceptions** Of American Power

By E.J. Dionne Jr.

WASHINGTON — Three foreign policy syndromes are being laid to rest because of America's war against the Serbian forces of President Slobodan Milosevic. How we judge this use of American power will depend on results — especially for suffering Kosovars and for the future effectiveness of NATO. But the end of potentially destructive precon-

ceptions is always a good thing. The Vietnam Syndrome. Seen from the perspective of opponents of the Vietnam War, it was a sensible wariness, a belief that it is prudent to recognize the limits of American power. Seen from the viewpoint of those who still defend intervention in Vietnam, the syndrome was rooted in a mistaken belief that American power was an invidious force and could oever be used to a good end.

The Vietnam syndrome has suffered many blows in this decade, beginning with America's success in the war against Iraq. By committing American forces in so many fights - for starters, in Haiti, Bosnia and Iraq — President Bill Clinton has embraced the idea that American military power can be used on behalf of democracy, human rights and legitimate national interests.

But the war in Kosovo is the decisive break. This is a case in which most Vietnam-era doves swallowed their ambivalence and endorsed the use of force. Indeed, some longtime hawks have argued that former doves like this intervention precisely because vital American national interests

are not at stake. In an admirably candid column in USA Today, Walter Shapiro spoke for many anti-Vietnam vet-Schooled as I was in the of American military power, I now find myself in the awkward position of trying to justify my support for NATO air strikes against Slobodan Milosevic," he wrote. "As years of dithering over Bosnia tragically proved America is the only as proved. America is the only na-tioo with the resources and the will to take a firm stand against the barbarians and the terrorists at

the gates of civilized society." The end of the Vietnam syndrome is a trans-Atlantic phenomenon. A remarkable convert to the use of Western power is in their own land. Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer

of Germany, a member of the pacifist Greens party. "If you are called a warmon-

ger, then you begin to ask yourself whether you have really made every effort to avoid war, Mr. Fischer said last week. "I can only

say that the answer is, yes."

The Gulf War Syndrome. This syndrome, the flip side of the Vietnam syndrome, threatened to convince us that the use of American power is easy.

The Gulf War was successful for two reasons: extraordinary preparation and a very clear goal an end to Iraq's occupation of Kuwait. But it is wrong to con-clude that the United States' technological superiority will make all future wars seem that easy.

The slaoghter let loose in Kosovo by Mr. Milosevic's legions and the capture of U.S. servicemen should teach us the limits of airpower and the need to be prepared for battles in which technology must be supplemented by

a will to see a war through.

Wars are ngly and involve moral
evil. We should fight them only if
our objectives are worthy, and if we are prepared to bring all our forces to bear to achieve them. Senator John McCain, Republican of Arizona, is rightly earning kudos for his forthrightness in declaring that having entered this war to protect Kosovars, we should not pull back until they are truly protected - even if that may mean committing American ground troops.

• The Knee-Jerk Syndrome. It used to be that hawks were hawks and doves were doves and their reactions to American interven-

tion, anywhere, were predictable. With so many former doves now Kosovo hawks and so many ex-hawks now Kosovo doves, it is impossible to stereotype anyone anymore. Almost everyone accepts that American power can be used for good or ill, in the national interest or not, effectively or ineffectively. With the slaying of the syndromes, we can argue plainly about whether, when, where and how that power should be used.

Even if the U.S. administration was unprepared for what this war would entail, the brutality of Mr. Milosevic's forces oow gives us little choice but to fight on until Kosovars regain security

The Washington Post.



#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Justice for Lockerbie

Putting the two Libyan suspects on trial is only a small step toward justice. According to the U.S. and British indictments, the suspects are the least of the Libyans involved in the Lockerbie atrocity. At Nuremberg we tried the leaders, not the underlings who carried out their murderous orders. Why are we concentrating on the two agents and ignoring their superiors?
We, the relatives of the victims,

want the whole truth about the bombing. Any trial that is limited to Lamen Khalifa Fhimah and Ab-del Basset Ali Megrahi will be a farce. A proceeding that does not examine evidence of the Libyan government's culpability will not produce justice, whether or oot

the two suspects are convicted. The Lihyan government has consistently proposed that there be no civil liability or criminal charges against anyone else, even if there is firm evidence they were involved in the bornhing.

No government should make any agreement to prevent or limit the civil action in exchange for this strange criminal proceeding. The politicians should not expect that this elaborately staged trial will divert anger and attention from the real issue of punishing state-sponsored terrorism. BRUCE M. SMITH.

Port Orange, Florida,

#### About NATO's Action

Two weeks of NATO bombing have caused nothing but misery and destruction. The deterioration of the situation is a direct consequence of the air strikes. They have fueled extremism on both sides in Kosovo, making the prospect for a negotiated settlement more remote than ever. The law of the jungle now prevails.

NATO has consistently ig-nored the root cause of the conflict in Kosovo, which is Albanian sep-aratism. Today, NATO focuses on Serbian "aggression" to justify the bombing, using terms like "genocide" and "concentration camps" to make its case. Yet what is happening in Kosovo is no dif-ferent from the events of 1005 ferent from the events of 1995, when the Croats drove 250,000 Krajina Serbs from their homeland in one weekend, murdering

and looting along the way. NATO's objective should now be to find a face-saving way to stop bombing and to arrange a political senlement, based oo Serbia's territorial integrity, that is acceptable to both Albanians and Serbs.

GEORGE TINTOR. London.

NATO is a vast hureaucracy in search of a missioo. As such, it is a menace to world peace, If Slobodan Milosevic somehow patches it up with the Kosovars and

unravels NATO, he will go down in history as a great statesman. LARRY PARR. Kuala Lumpur.

Regording "This Americon Noisemaker Is All Bork With No Bite" (Opinion. April 6) by Wilianı Safire:

I propose a new verh for American English: To yap on obsessively, boringly and with great loathing about President Bill Clinton is "to safire."

MARTA CLARK. Wilmslow. Britain.

#### Orthodox Bulgaria

Bulgaria is referred to as a "historically Muslim" country ("The Silent Issue: Greater Albanio, April 6). Officially 85 percent of the Bulgarian population is Christian Orthodox and 13 percent is Muslim. Historically, Bulgaria preserved the Orthodox religioo and the Slavonic language, even in the darkest hours for the country

under the Turkish yoke. Bulgaria
has never been a Muslim country.
Confusion and distortion of historical facts from the pages of
your highly reputable paper may
lead to artificial tension. The crisis in Kosovo is a test for stability in the world, and there is no place for ignorance at the end of the ceotury.
SIIKA PASTRAKOVA.

London.

## Privacy Needs Protection From Information Mongers

By Amitai Etzioni

WASHINGTON — It seems (Greenwich Village?) and marital self-evident that informations (single at 40-plus?) suggest tion about your shoe size does not need to be as well guarded as information about tests ordered by your doctor. But with the federal and state governments' piecemeal approach to privacy protection, if we Americans release informatioo about one facet of our lives. keiers to track users' preferences we inadvertently expose much about the others.

During Senate hearings in 1987 about Robert Bork's fitness to serve as a Supreme Court justice.

#### MEANWHILE

a reporter found out which videotapes Judge Bork reoted. The response was the enactment of the ideo Privacy Protection Act. Another law prohibits the So-

cial Security administration from releasing Social Security numbers. Still other laws limit what states can do with information provided to motor vehicle departments.

Congress is now seeking to add some more panels to this crazy quill of narrowly drawn privacy laws. The House recently endorsed a hill to prohibit banks and securities and insurance companies owned by the same parent corporation from sharing personal medical information. Congress is also grappling with laws to prevent some information about mutual-fund holdings from being sold

and bought as freely as hot dogs. But with superpowerful computers and vasi databases in the private sector, personal information cannot be segmented in this manner. For example, in 1996, a man in Los Angeles obtained a store card that gave him discounts and allowed the store to trace his purchases. After injuring his knee in the store, he sued for damages. He was told that if he proceeded with his suit, the store would use the fact that he hought a lot of liquor to show that he must have fallen because he was a drunkard.

Some health insurers try to "cherry pick" their clients, seek-ing to cover only those who are least likely to have genetic problems or contract costly diseases like AIDS. Some laws prohibit in-surers from asking people directly about their sexual orientation. But companies sometimes refuse to

status (single at 40-plus?) suggest that they might pose high risks. Especially comprehensive pri-

vacy invaders are "cookies" -surveillance files that many marketers implant in the personal computers of people who visit their Weh sites to allow the marand transactions. Cookies, we are assured, merely inform marketers about our wishes so that adver-tising can be better directed, spar-

ing us from a flood of junk mail. Actually, by tracing the steps we take once we gain a new piece of information, cookies reveal not only what we buy (a thong from Victoria's Secret? antidepressants?) hut also how we think.

All this has led Scott McNealy, chairman and chief executive of Sun Microsystems, to state, "You already have zero privacy - ger over it." This pronouncement of the death of privacy is premature. hus we will be able to keep it alive only if we introduce general, allencompassing protections over segmented ones.

Some cyberspace anonymity can be provided by new technologies like anti-cookie programs and encryption software that allow us to encrypt all of our data. Corporate self-regulation can also help. IBM, for example, said last week that it would poll its advertising from Weh sites that do not have clear privacy policies.

Other companies such as Dis-ney and Kellogg have voluntarily agreed not to collect information about children aged 12 or younger without the consent of their parents. And some oew government regulation of Internet commerce may soon be required, if only because the European Union is insisting that any personal infor-mation about the citizens of its member countries cannot be used without the citizen's consent.

Especially sensitive information should get extra protection. But such selective security can work only if all the other information about a person is not freely accessible elsewhere.

The writer, professor of soci-ology at George Washington University, is the outhor, most revently, of "The Limits of Privocy." He contributed this cominsure those whose vocation vocy." He contributed this will designer?), place of residence ment to The New York Times.

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By Douglas Jehl

RIYADH - This capital stretches 65 kilometers from end to end, spread across the desert like a landlocked Los Angeles. It is said to be growing faster than any other city in the world. with a population doubling every nine years.

Until now, Riyadh has expanded out, oot up. But that may be about to change. Two gleaming multiuse towers will soon dwarf every other structure in the kingdom. They are the progeny of rival princes but may also send a more prosaic signal: that broader is not necessarily better.

This will be the Michigan Avenue of Riyadh." Sabah Sammakieh, manager of one project, said, referring to a Chicago-skyline transformation that is hard to envision in this ho-

Still, as planners wrestle with Riyadh's future, many have been asking how long the sprawl can

High Commission, which is trying to figure out how to accommodate an anticipated increase from today's population of 3.5 million to a predicted 10.5 million by 2021. Even that figure would require a slowing of the current growth rate.

Mr. Siebert and others in Riyadh know the danger of underestimation. In 1982, when the diplomatic capital was moved to Riyadh from the Red Sea city of Jidda, there were sober projections that the capital's population, then under a million, would hit 2.5 million sometime about

Instead the population has been growing faster than anyone had predicted - at a rate of 8 percent a year. That is more than twice even Saudi Arabia's sky-high overall rate; residents swear that they can see the city's boundaries expand by

Riyadh today is larget in area than Paris and just slightly smaller than greater London. While those cities have charms large and small, Riyadh continue.

"We have to prepare for the circumstances."
said Drystian Siebert, chief planner for the Riyadh

office blocks interspersed with vacant lots.

(the Interior Ministry resembles a flying saucer). And its most beautiful buildings, residential

palaces, tend to be behind high walls. One reason it has sprawled, planners say, is that Saudi families tend to be large. With an average of 7.2 people per household, even more than in most other Muslim countries, most families want space.

That aspiration is intensified by the priority that conservative Saudis put on privacy, with homes designed to guard women from strangers sight. Few Saudis of any class would feel com-

fortable living in an apartment, with strangers above and below. And even among people feeling the pain of tight economic times, few say they would be willing to settle for anything short of a spacious two-story villa on a large lot.

The sprawl has compounded the problems posed by the population increase, further straining efforts to build roads and deliver services to homes in what is, after all, a desert, Riyadh has

little in the way of oatural resources. Saudi Arabia's vast oil supplies are bundreds million.

It has modern embassies and official buildings of kilometers away, and limited electrical capacity means that brownouts are frequent. Wells fed by deep aquifers provide one-third of city water; the rest must come buodreds of kilometers by pipeline from desalination plants on the

Riyadh's status as capital has oothing to do with comfort but is tied to history. The city was seized in 1902 from the hands of a rival tribe by the man who would become King Abdulaziz and unify Saudi Arabia. It has remained the strongbold of the ruling Al Saud family.

And as the government center it has remained an irresistible beacoo, even with summer temperatures that routinely exceed 46 degrees centigrade (115 Fahrenheit). Its populatioo has been swelled by Saudis from all over the kingdom. drawn by bopes of securing royal patronage or

government jobs. Riyadh has also lured hundreds of thousands of foreigners - construction workers, servants, computer technicians and consultants - wbo account for 25 perceot of a population of 20

No one, certainly not the developers, expects the opening of the high-rises in Riyadh to attract more than a handful uf residents. Housing is not their main purpose. In fact they are as much icons as buildings, each with a distinctive design and shape. They will maximize their impact by standing some 60 stories tall — even though, to abide by legal limits, both structures have only 30 floors.

The smaller, the Faisaliah Complex, is being built by the King Faisal Foundation, Saudi Arabia's biggest developer, whose profits are used for philanthropy, said its secretary general, Prince Bandar ibn Saud, It will be 250 meters tall and will eclipse the several 10-story buildings

that until 1992 were the tallest permitted by law.
The other is Kingdom Center, by Prince Walid ibo Talal, a financier. It is supposed to top 300 meters, which will make it the second-tallest building in the Middle East — behind one in Dubai - and 23d in the world.

Both are to include malls, hotels, conference centers and a few residential condominiums meant, for now, to attract foreign business

## Scottish Judge Charges 2 Libyans With Murder

CAMP ZEIST. Netherlands - Two Libyans were charged with murder and conspiracy Tuesday in connection with the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, in which 270

people died.

The two men, banded over by Libya on Monday after years of tormous negotiations, appeared before a Scottish judge at a former U.S. air base in the

The base has been temporarily declared British territory as part of a com-plex deal brokered by the United Nations to bridge the diplomatic chasm between the United States, Britain and Lihya.

The hearing was held before a Scottish sheriff, or regional judge, and under

London and Washington have ac-cused Abdel Basset Ali Megrabi and Lamen Khalifa Fhimah, allegedly Libyan secret agents, of planting the suitcase bomh that downed Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie on Dec. 21, 1988, killing

Nigeria Loser

**Drops Appeal** 

ABUJA, Nigeria — Opponents of General Olusegun Obasanjo on Tuesday withdrew their appeal

against his presidential election vic-

against his presidential election vic-tory, paviog the way for the former military ruler to assume power on May 29.

The chief lawyer for Geoeral Obasanjo's defeated rival, Olu Fa-

lae, said the legal team dropped its

Court after it was rejected by the Court of Appeal on Monday.

Ajayi. 'I will give you details on the reason why later.'

The threat of a Supreme Court

challenge was the last legal obstacle

to General Obasanjo's taking office

next month, when General Ab-

dulsalami Abubakar has promised to

step down, thereby ending 15 years

of army domination in Nigeria.
Mr. Falae bad alleged fraud during the Feh. 27 election. in which

General Obasanjo won about 63

percent of the vote, but few ex-

Five judges unanimously denied

General Obasanjo, who relin-

quished power for Nigeria's last elected president in 1979, was due

to return bome on Tuesday after the first stage of a post-victory world

Local and international observers

reported blatant fraud, but blamed

both sides and said the cheating had

not affected the final outcome of the

pected the result to be overturned.

the election challenge on Monday

because of insufficient evidence.

"We are no longer going to ap-al." said the lawyer, Godwin

a total of 270 people.

Both men deny the charges.

A spokesman for the Scottish Office said the arrest process involved the read-ing out of all 270 names of those killed in the disaster, including 189 Americans and 11 people on the ground.

The initial appearance before the judge will probably be followed by a further court appearance next week that would lead in committal for trial, the Scottish Office official said.

The handover of the men on Monday marked the eod of 10 years of wrangling between Britain, the United States and Libya. As a result, the United Nations immediately suspended its severe sancnons on the Libyan government of Col-onel Moammar Gadhafi.

But separate sanctions imposed by the United States in 1986, before the Lockerhie deaths in 1988, will not end until other cooditions are fulfilled. American officials said.

When Libya earlier refused to furnish the suspects, Britain and the United States pressed for UN sanctions, which were imposed in 1992. The sanctions were toughened in 1993.

were toughened in 1993.

These sanctions have burred air travel to and from Libya as well as the sale of arms and spare parts for aviation and for the oil industry, which is vital to Libya.

Although the sanctions were suspended Monday, the Security Council must still vote to lift them completely. It can do so within 90 days if the secretary-general reports that Libya has met other conditions, such as cooperating with conditions, such as cooperating with France in its investigation of the bombing of a French UTA flight over Niger in 1989 in which 171 people died,

■ Italian Official Visits Libya

Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini of Italy on Tuesday became the first highranking foreign official to fly into Libya after its seven years of international isolation because of the Pan Am bombing. The Associated Press reported from

Mr. Dini said Libya should now take a new role in international affairs.

'I am very pleased to have arrived by air with no difficulties encountered or time wasted. Therefore, I am very happy to be here in Libva today." Mr. Dini said, according to JANA, the official

Libyan oews agency.

He said he would try to convince his European partners to allow Libya to attend future meetings of the European Union on the Mediterranean area, which are a forum for regional trade and political issues.

Italy is heavily dependent on Libyan petroleum and gas, and relations, while tested at times, have endured.

In Cairo, an official of the national carrier EgyptAir said that it planned to resume regular flights to Tripoli on Wednesday. Libyan Airlines was ex-



MEETING OF MINDS - President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt receiving an honorary degree at Beijing University on Tuesday, when China joined with Egypt in a call for reforms in the UN's Security Council.

## 2 Epidemics Blamed on Germ Warfare

#### Russian Defector's Book Reports Accident at a Secret Chinese Plant

By William J. Broad and Judith Miller New York Times Service

NEW YORK -- The most senior de-And Libya must agree to pay comprogram says in a new book that Soviet when Japanese attackers sowed epidempeosation to the families of the Lockofficials concluded that China suffered a ics there, killing thousands of Chinese. erbie crash victims if its two agents are serious accident at one of its secret plants for developing higherical

causing two major epidemics.

The book also reports that Soviet researchers tried to turn HTV, the virus that causes AIDS, into a weapon and that even as the last Soviet president, Mikhail Gorbachev, pursued peace openings with the West, he ordered a vast expansion of the deadly effort to turn after his defection in 1992 give his new germs and viruses into weapons of mass destruction

The defector, Kanatjan Alibekov, now known as Ken Alibek, says in the book that as deputy director of a top branch of the Soviet program, he knew of the disaster in China because he saw secret Soviet intelligence reports twice a

Spy satellites peering down at China found what seemed to be a large biological-weapons laboratory and plant near a remote site for testing nuclear warheads, he wrote. Intelligence agents then found evidence that two epidemics of hemorrhagic fever swept the region in the late 1980s. The area had never previously known such diseases, which cause profuse bleeding and death.
"Our analysts." Mr. Alibek said,

"concluded that they were caused by an accident in a lab where Chinese scipected to begin flying to Egypt soon, the entists were weaponizing viral dis-official said, speaking on condition of eases." Viral scourges that cause intense eases." Viral scourges that cause intense arming of giant SS-18 intercontinental lution for baving made them.

bleeding include Marburg fever and the ballistic missiles aimed at New York, dreaded Ebola virus.

China has signed a 1972 treaty banning biological weapons. During World War II it became one of the few modern fector from the Soviet germ-warfare countries to experience their honors The allegation is one of several in Mr.

which was written with a journalist, Stephen Handelman, and is being published by Random House this week. It was made available to The New York Times in advance.

U.S. intelligence officials who know what Mr. Alibek said in secret debriefings account considerable credence. They have called him highly believable about the subjects he knows firsthand, like the Soviet biological-weapous program from 1975 to 1992, when he served as one of Moscow's top germ warriors. He is less reliable, they say, on political and mil-itary issues that he knows secondhand.

The book asserts that Mr. Gorbachev. in his "characteristic scrawl." signed a five-year plan for 1985 to 1990 that ordered the most ambitious effort ever for the development of deadly germs and viruses, including smallpox, as weapons. In 1980, world health authorities declared the ancient scourge eradicated from all human populations.
In 1988, as Mr. Gorbachev's glasnost

and perestroika reform campaigns were in full swing and the Russians and Americans were negotiatiog new arms-control treaties. officials "at the highest levels." Mr. Alibek said, ordered the

Los Angeles, Seattle and Chicago with anthrax and other deadly germs.

Among the book's other disclosures · Moscow mastered the art of rearran-

ging genes to make harmful microbes even more potent and harder to counteract. Anthrax, a top biological warfare was genetically altered, he says, to resist five kinds of antibiotics.

 The top-secret program obtained a sample of HIV, the AIDS virus, from the United States in 1985 and tried unsuccessfully to turn the slow killer into a weapon.

· A senior military official told him that the Soviet Union had waged germ warfare in Afghanistan from planes, spraying armed rebels with glanders in an unsuccessful bid to subdue them. Glanders is a chronic bacterial disease of borses that can be highly lethal in bu-

 Under a top-secret project known as Bonfire, Soviet scientists in 1989 discovered "a new class of weapons" -now called bioregulators - that could damage the nervous system, alter moods, trigger psychological changes and even kill." The KGB secret police agency was particularly interested in them because they "could not be traced by pathologists." A Soviet program called Flute worked on germs and other agents that could be used mainly for political assassinations.

Mr. Alibek has said that he decided to speak out publicly to fight the spread of biological weapons and to seek abso-

#### BRIEFLY

#### Christians Patrol Nazareth Streets

NAZARETH, Israel - Distraught Christians closed courches Tuesday in the inwn where the Bible says Jesus lived as a boy, and some. armed with clubs, patrolled streets in response to weekend clashes with Muslims.

Two days after the outbreak of sectarian violence, the town of 42.000 Muslims and 18.000 Christians was still simmering with fear

and suspicion.

Disappointed tourists visiting Nazareth's major attraction - the Church of the Annunciation -

found locked gates Tuesday. At the core of the dispute is a halfacre plot next to the church. The Christian mayor wants to build a plaza for millennium pilgrims there. Muslims say the land belongs to the Islamic Trust and want a large mosque to be built on the site. (AP)

#### Ex-Official Hiding From Mexico Probe

MEXICO CITY - A former state governor under investigation for alleged ties to drug traffickers said in a letter published Tuesday that he had gone into hiding to es-cape what he called politically motivated persecution.

Mario Villanueva, whose sixyear term in Quintana Roo state ended Monday, has failed to appear for questioning by prosecutors since a 12-bour interrogation by Mexico's anti-drug czar last month. He did not attend his successor's inauguration Monday night.

His lawyer, Juan Collado. confirmed that Mr. Villanueva had

## 4 Hanged in Death Of Iraqi Cleric

BAGHDAD — Four Iraqis, including three clergymen, have been executed for assassinating lraq's top Shiite Muslim cleric, Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Sadiq Sader. and two of bis sons in Najaf io February, according to an official statement Tuesday.

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The four were hanged after a security court sentenced them to death, the Directorate General of Security said.

The official Iraqi press ageocy. INA, carried the statement, which did not specify were or when the sentences were carried out. (AP)

#### For the Record

Israel on Tuesday ordered the closure of two Palestinian offices in East Jerusalem. One was the office of an adviser on Christian affairs, the other was a center for a prisoners' support group. (ÁFP)

## LIBYA: European Oil Companies Get Set for Investment Boom

#### Continued from Page 1

the issue of baving political stability to attract foreign investment." For that sta-bility, he said, air traffic must be free.]

Over the years, Western diplomats and Libyans have acknowledged that the sanctions have done little damage to the country. Libya had domestic suppliers of parts it needed in keep its oil industry running. The air embargo affected im- British drilling. ports and exports, but Libya could use its seaports. European countries also continued buying oil from Libya, and several African nations have ignored the

come back oil companies that left through the 1980s as a combination of UN sanctions and threats ngainst foreigners by the Libyan leader. Colonel Moammar Gadhafi, made the nation a no-go area for Westerners.

Later this month at a conference in Geneva, the Libyan oil minister. Abdallah Salim Badri, will ancounce amendments to the nation's petrolenm law, which dates from 1955, and unveil the first major round of bidding for oil

exploration rights in four years. Mr. Badri said last month in Vicana active in exploring for oil in Libya. that he already had held talks with U.S. oil companies about returning.

"As far as Libya is concerned, they are welcome back." Mr. Badri said. We already have been in contact with told Occidental Petroleum Corp. and a don policy consultancy,

been contacted by the American oil companies, and we want them to come back to Libya."

been found to the North Sea - Libya is a prize for the world's oil industry. embargo began. And in 1996, the U.S. Lasmo of London pumps Libyan oil for Congress tightened sanctions against \$5 or so per barrel, about half the cost for The two-year oil price slump has made Libya's cheap oil even more at-

tractive. Benchmark Brent crude oil Already, Libya has taken steps to wel-price of almost \$25. Libyan projects. Libya until sanctions are removed. however, are profitable even if prices slip well below \$10 a barrel.

ENI, based in Rome, produces about 16 percent of Libva's oil, and it discovered the nation's biggest offsbore field. The company is seeking customers to back a \$3.5 billion investment in new man-made river project could be used gas production from the Wafa field on to support a chemical-weapons program Libya's Mediterranean coast and a pipeline under the sea to Italy.

OMV AG of Austria, Repsol SA of Spain northern cities. and Lundin Oil AB of Sweden, also are Even so, alm

some of our previous partners. We have consortium that includes Marathon Oil Co., Conoco Inc. and Amerada Hess Corp. to pull out after Libyans were linked to the bombing of an Egyptian With proven oil reserves of about 30 airliner and a German nightclub, illion barrels — almost as much as has Exxon Corp. and Mobil Corp. withbillion barrels - almost as much as has drew in 1982, a year after a U.S. trade

> Iran and Libya, accusing both of funding If U.S. sanctions were lifted. Conoco, Hess and Marathon could have a head start on their rivals, since assets worth

prices, currently \$14.72 a barrel, are about \$2 billion, including seven major little more than half their 1997 peak oil fields, have been held in trust by While the Uhited States has acknowledged that Libya has not sponsored ferrorism in at least three years, Jane's

Defense Weekly last year reported that intelligence officials were concerned that Libya's \$25 billion "great or to speed troops to Libya's borders. Libva maintains that the irrigation proj-Others, such as Total SA of France, ect is to develop agriculture near its

Even so, almost nobody expects the United States to lift sanctions.

Still, the U.S. companies that with-drew in the early 1980s after sanctions tightened probably will not be back soon. In 1986. President Ronald Reagan and Considerable Reagan and

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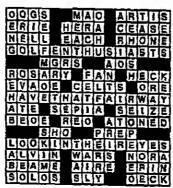
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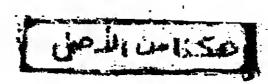
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THE PARTY

# Lionel Hampton Is Still Swinging Packing the House, at 91

By Mike Zwerin International Herakl Tribune

ARIS — During Lionel Hamp-ton's just concloded week in the strument. Nobody ever played melody room named for him, Jazz Club on the vibes. Louis Lionel Hampton in the Meridien asked me if I knew Hotel at Porte Maillot, people in the sold-out audience were saying that this was probably the last time they would ever see him. Audiences have been saying that for well over a decade now.

He lends new meaning to the term living legend. Part of the experience of watching him perform in 1999 is the clear implication of the entire history of 20th-century popular music. He will be 91 on April 20. This is not a round number and there will be no official smalle, he stops for a minute to catch his breath: "Louis heard me in the studio that day. Louis liked it. He said to keep the instrument there and play on the next recordings. I number and there will be no official celebration. Still, at this point, each passing year should be cheered. Either played on was a Eubie way. promoters have been inquiring about New Year's Eve.

Bom in 1908 in Louisville, Kentucky, mised in the Catholic church, he learned that was how the vibes at the Cottan Club in California. the rudiments of drumming from a Dominican nun. He became the drum-Dominican nun. He became the drum-mer with Les Hite's hand in Frank Sebastian's Cotton Club in Culver City, California, It was 1926, he was 18,

The way he remembers it: "After a few years. Frank Sebastian got tired of the old band and wanted to put on a new hand. He brought Louis Armstrong from the East Coast to front Les Hite's orchestra. Louis Armstrong named me Gates. You can really swing,' he told me. I was always a good timekeeper on the drums."

From timekeeper to gatekeeper to Gates. When Hampton, who had trouble remembering names, started to call everybody he knew "Gates," it was generalized into the "Man" or "Dude"

Frank Sebastian used to introduce us. 'The world's greatest trumpet player Louis Armstrong with the world's fast-est drummer Lionel Hampton." he recalls. "I juggled four sticks at once and kept the time too. We were a bunch of

youngsters but we could all read music and we had good soloists.

Hampton is sitting in a cozy suite on the top floor of the Meridien. At the end of a six-week tour, with the sun streaming in nn a warm April afternoon, he appears to be at home on the road. The Champagne served by the cluh downstairs is called "Cuvee Lionel Hampton." A spokesman for Vertus, its producers, said was the first time a product of the Champagne area of France had ever been named after anything other than something or sumcone from the region.

Luuis liked us so well when he was fronting Les Hite's orchestra. The continues. The got a record date and he used our band. The vibraharp was just coming "When's the next gig?" He played the

used it in studios to play gong music. It was a percussion inanything about the vibraharp. I told him I did, but I didn t.

Wearing a naughty the next recordings. I Blake tune, 'Memories of You.' I played

fering three strokes, he moves in a wheelchair or he walks very slowly with a cane. and not without aid. Watching his slow, shaky arrival on the bandstand is heartrending. Playing the vibes, he sits on a stool and pokes with only one mallet, resembling a sort of wind-up Lionel Hampton doll. But his current band swings as they all have, and he insists on signing their paychecks himself.

After spending four historic years as part of the Benny Goodman Quartet with Gene Krupa and Teddy Wilson, Hampton went out on bis own. He has led a swinging hig band since 1940. Swing, the keeping of good time, is what keeps him going. It remains essential to him to contribute to the swing be insists on

being surrounded by.

During the big band era when you beard a swinging band you could not quite identify on the radio, it often tumed out to be Hampton. What it may have lacked in personality was made up by the quality and the quantity of the swing. Hampton is famed for never wanting to stop the music, getting him off hand-stands was always difficult.

His young soloists — such players as Illinois Jacquet, Wes Montgomery, Clif-ford Brown. Dexter Gordon — would become legends on their own. A teenage Quincy Jones played trumpet with Hampton, who gave him his start as an arranger. He gave the singer Dinah

Washington her big break.



an introduction. And Lionel Hamptan started out in 1926 with Les Hite

He has been mumbling and hesitating and occasionally drifting off. After suf-He thanked him during his set, saying: 'I know he's a Democrat hut he never put his hand deep into my pocket."

> OMETIMES he remembers old stories even old friends haven't heard before. Recently he told a reporter from Los Angeles about one of his first road trips as a leader in 1940. The booker of a dance in Reading. California — "Jack Hamilton, he was a whiskey drinker" — beat them out of their money.

> Later that night, just about broke, they saw a farm house and pulled up to ask to use the phone. The farmer had been at the dance. "We played white people's tempos," Hampton explains. "And we'd put on a linle show, We had a shake dancer, the band would play 'Tiger Rag.'
> With me juggling those four drumsticks.
> No white folks ever saw anything like that before."

The farmer, whose name — he cannot quite recall — was "something-hoff." took all 13 of them in for the night. The farmer's two daughters cooked for them. The next day, the farmer lent them the money to get to the next date.

Years later the story about a white farmer giving shelter to a black band in the middle of the night in 1940 was published in a California paper. Hampton's manager received a telephone call from what sounded like an elderly gentleman. He said he was the farmer's son Hampton has been working about 75 and had been there and was pleased to dates a year. After it has been-awhile, learn that the story had not been forgotteo after all these years.
"I love music," Hampton says. "And

out then. NBC and the other networks. White House a few months after his 90th. I thank the Lord that I still play it."

# Thin Doings at the Barbican

'Wardrobe' Is Children's Theater at Its Laziest

By Sheridan Morley

ONDON - Christmas has come a little late, or maybe early, to the Barbican this year. Adrian Noble's staging of Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of the old C.S. Lewis classic, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," was widely acclaimed as a children's treat at Stratford a few seasonal months ago, but seen in

the harsher light of a London April it looks a little thin around the edges.

Subsidized companies now depend crucially oo an anoual Christmas show for hard family cash, and the RSC has over the years achieved the first male 'Peter Pan' tlately hijacked by the National), the last great original pantomime ("Swan Down Gloves"), as well as the musical "Wizard of Oz" and last year's Christmas Carol.

But I rather doubt whether this one will stay the annual course; Mitchell's adaptation is very light on the sinister side of that creepy wardrobe door; the score by Shaun Davey is frankly pathetic, and as for acting we are left with Estelle Kohler doing a cut-price Wicked Witch of the North in a wonderful white fur but not a lot else.

We also get a none-too-Cowardly lion played impressively by Patrice Naiamhana - who also seems to be wishing, with Kohler, that someone had bothered to write him a character to go with his

This is children's theater at its laziest. relying on a couple of fair-to-good sets and the usual Disney uplift at the end to cover the gaps where plot and char-acterization should have been developed

more thoroughly.
"Peter Pan," "The Wizard of Oz" and even "Cinderella" survive because they are rattling good yarns. "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" was always essentially a collection of short stories, the kind that parents loved to read but children dreaded to hear, and neither of the Adrians has managed to do anything to give it real dramatic power or intensity.

Though the Haymarket program goes to some trouble to disguise the fact, Neil Simon's "The Prisoner of Second Avenue" was filmed (with Jack Lemmon and Anne Bancroft) as long ago as 1975. and first seen on Broadway a couple of years before that.

The dating does, however, maner, and crucially. Not only was this one of the first examples of Simon's going really dark, but it also deals with a moment in history when the central character und Manhattan itself were on the brink of a total nervous collapse. The visitor to New York today will find linle trace of that mid-70s urban breakdown. So what we have here is a



Marsha Mason and Richard Dreyfuss in "Prisoner of Second Avenue.

major theater in an open-ended run. his chosen text and its players, and an all Whether or not Dreyfuss and Mason can keep the cavemous Haymarket full all summer will be a much fairer and more interesting test of Hollywood box-office potency. Mason of course has a real claim to being a Simon interpreter. His second wife, she was also the inspiration for at least one of his classics 1"Chapter Two"), and it was on the movie of his "Goodbye girl" in 1977 that she first worked with Dreyfuss.

So there is a lot of nostalgia here, as well as a couple of rather uneasy comic turns in a curiously and uncharacter-istically clumsy construction four other characters in the play only make their appear-ance late in Act III. Seeing this

play with the hindsight of 20 years or more, it is as though Simon himself was sharing the mid-life crisis, insecurity and inability to get things together that are the hallmark of his central character.

Frith Banbury is not only our oldest working director, hut also one of the greatest. In a career of six decades he discovered such diverse dramatists as Robert Bolt, N.C. Hunter, Wynyard Browne and the newly reappraised Rodney Ackland. But he remains a curiously What we also have are yet two more American movie stars in the West End:

The two more are yet two more are yet two more are created a movie, a musical or an opera, it says about a form of theater on which we have all too eagerly turned our backs.

too rare refusal to market his own celebrity at the expense of anyone else's. It is good to see him returning to his heartland with a revival of D.L.

Cobum's "The Gin Game."
True. Cobum remains innore than 20 years after this first opened on Broadway) a one-hit wonder. True, too, his play is yet another unfathomable Pulitzer Prize-winner, a two-hander in which two irritable old inmates of a rundown old folks' home bicker over a card table,

Both are divorced, loathed by their families and compulsively querulous. fighting to prove they are alive.

Yet as so often. Banhury takes this very minor and often static piece and tums it into some-thing infinitely touching, simply by taking two of the greatest character actors in the land. Dorothy Tutin and Joss Ackland, and having them give a mas-

terclass in reacting as well as acting.

Truthfully, whether fighting for their lives or living for their fights, they are on paper a thoroughly unattractive couple of old curmudgeons who deserve each other but seldom our anention.

Yet Banhury, in this characteristically thoughtful, understated production. makes us care about them both in what is a constant triumph of direction over Richard Dreyfuss and Marsha Mason. manent classical or modern company. in attending to llashier and more egoist But to them all credit for going into a His genius lies in an uner fidelity to directors elsewhere.

#### **BOOKS**

SCARS OF SWEET 夢PARADISE: The Life and Times of Janis Joplin

By Alice Echols, 408 pages. \$2n. Metropolium.

Reviewed by Jonathan Yardley

HERE is yet another se-rious biography of a significant figure in American popular music, hard on the heels of Peter Guralnick's second volume about Elvis Presley and Michael Lydon's life of Ray Charles. One of the problems these books pose is that much of their subjects' lives was spent on the road in an endless succession of concerts and other performances. Getting across the texture of this without merely reciting endless itineraries and other lists is tricky, and neither Guralnick nor Lydon manages it.

Alice Echols, in this biography of Janis Juplin, comes closer. Her book is not without its faults - her prose is squishy, and she cannot always resist the temptations of l'emittism's soaphox -- but it does the important stuff well.

Joplin is hardly a figure to place alongside Presley and Charles, but she was interesting and emblematic and yery, very sad, all of which Echols captures convincingly. She places Joplin in the three contexts that really matter; the white embrace of plack music, the creation of Janis Joplin - the tough raw. at Austin, then in Haight-Ashpl the 1960s counterculture. on the national stage that was She does so without squeezing square pegs into round wanted to thumb her nose at holes. Juplin really was, or everyone who bad rejected seems to have been, exactly what Echols says she was.

Joplin lived unly 27 years - she died of an overdose of heroin in October 1970 — who had sneered at her for so and, though for a couple of long. In the age of the angry years she was rock music's young man, Janis was an tuntion, most of those on her fecting what she would later call living on the outer limits

which she became a star.

She was an eccentric, unconventional woman, yet sbe wanted to be good, the rebel who wanted to " be a beatcan't I be the kind of person white picket fence?"

but when she hit high school she veered wildly off course. 'She'd been cute," said one classmate, "and all of a sudden she was ugly "- pimply. flat-chested, overweight so she chose to become "the school slut." To what extent this reputation was deserved as opposed to fabricated is unclear to this day, but what matters is that it was how she was perceived and that it set a pattern to which she was faithful for the rest of her ap-

pallingly brief life. She was lonely and vulnerable, and she chose to be outrageous as a way of masking this; that, too, is a familiar story. She had a "sweet, feminine side," but she hid it behind the "outrageous behavior" for which she became known, first in Port Arthur. the highly influential "mythic then at the University of Texas trashy broad." and the onset bury and San Francisco, then hers for a few moments. She her, and she thought the way to

do it was to become famous: "Making it was one way to get hack at all those people preeminent diva, left few angry young woman. There traces: a handful of record- was an assaultive quality to ings, only a few tracks of her. In her Austin months, which still withstand critical Janis was pushing bard, perthough she was smart and of probability. There were sensitive, she lived a thorthe barroom brawls, the close oughly self-destructive exist- calls on the road, the endless ence, so her story is far mure boozing and the experiment-

some abstract commitment to adventuresomeness.

came from a familiar mold: not permit her accounts of sic of the time. She tried hard She was the bad girl who Joplin's riotous behavior to to absorb the black style and overwhelm her narrative, there was so much of it that nik' and 'get stoned, get laid, any responsible biographer have a good time, '" yet who plaintively asked: "Why there are times when "Scars of Sweet Paradise" verges on who wants the house with the the sordid, as did Joplin herself. The greater problem, She grew up in a dreary with which Echols contends Texas city. Port Arthur, the successfully, is that Joplin's child of a fairly traditional music can get lost in all that family that had fairly tradi-

tional expectations for her. As that commands such interest a young child she seemed to as she attracts nearly three be heading in that direction. decades after her death. Her early passions were folk, blues and jazz, and she remained true to them throughout her life. Her idol and exemplar was the great black blues singer Bessie a rigidly segregated place, and death. like other white youths in the **BEST SELLERS** 

cautionary than exemplary. ations with drugs and sex. It late 1950s and early 1960s But it has much to tell us was high-risk living and it she was drawn to black music about the turbulent period in wasn't simply the result of and culture, finding it more honest and expressive than the 'mass-produced dreck' Even though Echols does that was most white pop musucceeded impressively, as indicated by praise of her blues singing from some of the most respected black mu-

sicians of the day.
"When I sing," she said
once, "I feel, oh, well, like wheo you're first in love. I feel chills, weird feelings slipping all over my body, it's a supreme emotional and physical experience." 'Pearl,'' her final triumph,

was achieved only after her death, which may or may not have been suicide. That death, as Echols says, "revealed an unwelcome truth: the fun had turned lethal." The fruits of drug addiction were not flower power and Smith. Though she grewup in etemal bliss but deterioration

Washington Post Service

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TEW YORK — Three Russian guitarists, the Kolpakov Trio, struck up a bouncy, slightly mournful gypsy tune. Kalvi Jag, a Hungarian group, joined in, strumto assimilate. ming guitars and tapping on a milk can, playing a variant of the tune that came through their own tradition. Taraf de cultures: to present different Haidouks, from Romania, chimed in with the hammered strings of a cimbalom and stuttering, breakneck lines

from its accordionist. Grins began to flash between the musicians. Yuri Yunakov, a Bulgarian saxophonist, took up the melody, zigzagging all around it, while the percussionists in Musafir. a group from Rajasthan, India, started to double time the beat with wooden clappers and a hand drum. A flamenco dancer, Antonio El Pipa, stepped forward, his back arched like a drawn bow as his heels clanered cross-rhythms.

It was, in its way, a family reunion. The musicians and dancers were about to start touring together as the Gypsy Caravan, a sextuple bill, produced by the World Music Institute. They were rebearsing a potential grand finale. bending history and musicology a little bit to make a point: that the Gypsy heritage stretches all the way from India to Andalusia.

It is a musical diaspora that has survived poverty and persecution while transforming, and being transformed by, every culture it has touched. "We can all speak together," said Gusztav Varga, the leader of the Hungarian band Kalyi Jag (which means Black Fire).
"We have one language." The story of Gypsy music

is one of flexibility backed by hidden tenacity. Lately, the itinerary has been documented in films like "Latcbo Drom" and on alhums like "The Gypsy Road" (Alula), which has selections from five of the six bands on the Gypsy Caravan tour. The Roma, as gypsies call

themselves, began to spread across Europe from north-western India in the 11th cen-

# Hitting the Road With Gypsy Song and Dance

By Jon Pareles

Roma originated in Egypt.)
They were not welcomed. The Roma were distrusted, exploited, scapegoated, some-times enslaved, as the familiar Gypsy stereotypes grew. They were shunned and marginalized; they were also pressured

Like other minorities, the Roma learned to live between

picked up the language and settled yet held on to their own traditions.

Gypsy Caravan play at least who have kept their ears open two repertories. One is for all the way along their 1.000listeners who expect to hear year itinerary. Yunakov conso-called Gypsy music and tinues to extend his music. simply adds Rom touches to a local folk and pop repertory. The other, rarely revealed to

tury. (The word Gypsy comes faces to the outside world and the wider public, is the music from the mistaken idea that the their own communities. They one another, and the Gypsy musical styles where they Caravan tour is intended to present the purer Rom styles.

wn traditions, Carrying on the age-old Most of the musicians in the tradition of Rom musicians. who have kept their ears open "On every road," he said,

"you find something new to



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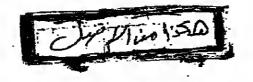
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## **BUSINESS/FINANCE**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1999

ERNST & YOUNG FROM THOUGHT TO FINISH."

PAGE 11

## Challenger Claims **Lead** In Germany

Mannesmann Shakes Up Europe's Phone Market

> By John Schmid International Herald Tribune

BANCOP

FRANKFURT — The transformation of Mannesmann AG from a heavy-industry conglomerate into a leading telecommunications company is beginning

to pay hig dividends.
Fresh from its latest acquisition, Mannesmann declared Tuesday that it was now the "nacontested No. 1" in Germany's hage telecommunications market, behind the former monopoly Deutsche Telekom AG.

Mannesmann announced its takeover of rival o.tel.o Communications GmhH late last week, just as German businesses were shutting down for Easter. On Tuesday, the first day after the holiday weekend, the company moved quickly to issue a prediction of how rapidly it could expand with the newly acquired fixedline network.

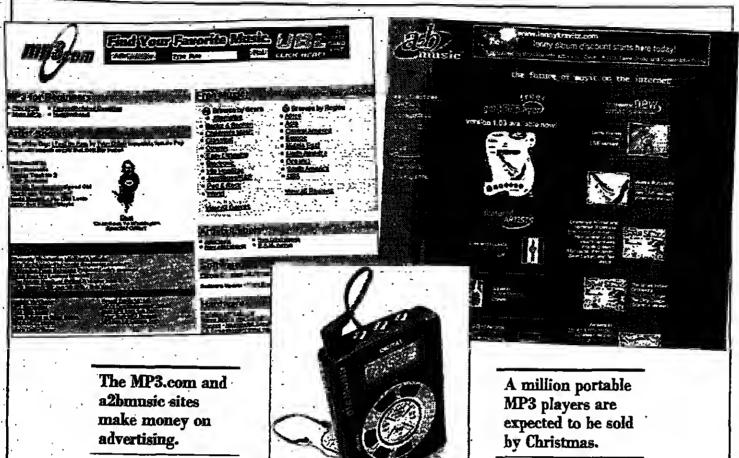
"We have laid an important foundation for overproportional growth," said Harald Stoeber, chief executive of Mannesmann's Arcor fixed-line telecoms unit. Arcor agreed Thursday to pay the utility companies RWE AG and VEBA AG 2.25 hillion Deutsche marks (\$1.25 hillion) for o telo's operations and customers,

Sales this year for Mannesmann's fixed-line operations should rise to "over 3 billion marks" with the addition of o.tel.o, Mr. Stoeber said. The Arcor network booked sales last year of 1.84

In its evolution away from heavy in-dustry, Dusseldorf-based Mannesmann has already overtaken incumbent Telekom as Germany's biggest cellular-phone service operator. The o.tel.o acquisition amounts to a major coup in Europe's biggest and most fiercely contested telecoms market, analysts said.

The o.tel.o deal shows that the company, once best known for its steel operations, is both agile and aggressive in its bid to become one of Europe's leading telecoms providers, said Harimut

See PHONE, Page 13



## The Downloading of Music Goes Mainstream

With 'Moonlight Sonata' Free on the Internet, Who Is Going to Buy a Recording?

By Neil Strauss

EW YORK — Late last year, Glen Richards, a 37-year-old former computer programmer on disability. decided to make his extensive collection of 78-rpm jazz records from the 1920s available on line at no cost to other enthu-siasts. He created a Web site and began con-verting his records into compoter files using a method of digital compression known as MP3, which allows music to be sent quickly and

freely over the Internet.

Mr. Richards knew that listening to music via MP3 files was popular with college students, much to the consternation of the recording industry. But he was unsure whether anyone else had the computer power and interest in downloading MP3 files of obscure jazz tunes.

away as Yngoslavia, Croatia, Peru, Israel, Turkey, Malaysia and New Zealand were downloading music, among them an office worker looking for music for his mother and a well-known animator in his 80s who lives in the Czech Republic. As for the legality of it all, Mr. Richards conceded, "It's definitely a gray

For the music business, the message is clear. Downloading music from the Internet is moving off of college campuses and into the general population, into offices and, in some

Six months ago the typical MP3 user was perceived as an insomniac college hacker. Not

MP3 has incredibly quickly evolved into a full-blown mainstream movement," said Mi-

Half a year later, about 4,000 people had chael Robinson, the chief executive officer of visited his small Web site. Visitors from as far MP3.com, which offers free songs for download from 7,000 bands without recording con-

> A few weeks ago, to wide surprise, the most popular file to be downloaded from MP3.com was a classical music composition, Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata," performed by Richard Morris, a pianist from Cincionati.

The piece has been downloaded from the site almost 100,000 times in the last month mostly from Internet addresses in corporate offices and government organizations, according to the music's producer, Mike Wathen.

A classical alhum is considered a substantial success if it sells 70,000 copies. For recording companies, the embrace of MPS is happening too fast and too soon. The

See MUSIC, Page 12

## Liberty to Buy News Corp. Stake

Sports Venture Goes to Murdoch

NEW YORK — Liberty Media Group, the cable-TV programming company run by John Malone, will acquire an 8 percent stake in News Corp. for about \$2.1 billion, the companies said Tuesday.

Liberty will swap its half interest in the Fox/Liberty Networks sports venture for \$1.43 billion of nonvoting News Corp. American depositary receipts. Separately, Liberty will huy half of MCI WorldCom Inc.'s 5 percent stake in News Corp. for about \$700 million in cash.

The deal will give Rupert Murdoch, News Corp.'s chairman, full control of the Fox/Liberty venture and enable him to expand News Corp.'s sports and entertainment empire, which includes the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team and television rights to National Football League games.

Fox/Liberty owns nine regional sports calle networks and has stakes in about 15 others, reaching about 62 million homes. It also owns the FX entertainment channel, which reaches more than 39 million homes, and the Outdoor Life and Speedvision cable networks. In addition, it owns 40 percent of Cablevision Systems Corp.'s sports husiness, which includes the New York Rangers and Knicks and Madison Square

The complicated transactions will give Liberty, a unit of AT&T Corp., the largest stake in News Corp. after Mr. Murdoch's family. The moves also are a strong endorsement by Mr. Malone, a cable pioneer whose investments have made a fortune for Liberty shareholders.

'To have the seal of approval or imprimatur of John Malone and Liberty is a wonderful thing for us," Mr. Murdoch said in a telephone interview from Australia

In Sydney, News Corp.'s shares rose 1.30 Australian dollars (82 U.S. cents), or 12 percent, to close at 13.08

News Corp.'s ADRs have risen 18 percent in the past year, matching the growth of the Standard & Poor's 500 Index, but they lag the 35 percent growth of the S&P entertainment index. The ADRs, which rose 16 percent in bour 4 week 524 anticipation of the announcement, closed in New York at \$34, up 12.5 cents. Liberty shares, which have risen 65 percent in the past 12 months, gained \$3.75 to close at \$59.625.

MCI WorldCom fell \$2.875 to end at \$89.625.

"This is a great transaction." said Mark Greenberg, fuod manager of the Invesco Leisure Fund, which owns shares in

manager of the invesco Leisure Fund, which owns shares in both companies. He said he owned Liberty stock because Mr. Malone "has made a lot of mooey for investors."

Liberty will buy 28.1 million News Corp. ADRs held by MCI WorldCom, which is exercising warrants it has held since 1995 on 56.2 million nonvoting News Corp. ADRs. First. News Corp. will acquire MCI's entire holding for

\$1.39 billion and then resell half to Liberty. About 8 million of MCI WorldCom's remaining News Corp. ADRs will be bought by Prince Walid hin Talal of Saudi Arabia, adding to his 5 percent stake in News Corp.

Liberty will get 51.8 million News Corp. ADRs in the Fox/Liberty swap and has agreed not to sell them for at least two years. The transactions will slightly dilute News Corp. shares, resulting in a net increase in the number of News Corp. ADRs of 31.8 million

## Resilient Brazilians Outwit Recession

As Economy Shows Signs of Recovery, Imaginative Solutions Flourish

By Simon Romero
New York Times Service

SAO PAULO - When the price of imported wheat rose more than 50 percent earlier this year, Lawrence Pih, the head of Brazil's largest flour-milling

company, anticipated the worst.
We expected many of our clients to go bankrupt, so we prepared ourselves legally to get anything we could from them, like machinery, 'said Mr. Pih, the president of Moinho Pacifico, which caters to companies ranging from corner bakeries to large food processors.

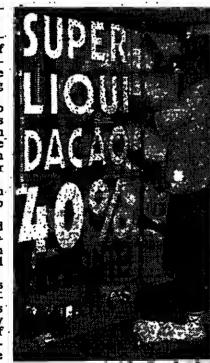
To his surprise, clients have shown unexpected willingness and creativity to negotiate ways ont of such outcomes. In March, Mr. Pih, a naturalized Brazilian from Shanghai, took legal action to recoup losses against only seven insolvent hakeries, fewer than he had

Brazil has had far fewer bankruptcies and business closures than analysts anticipated, even as the country struggles with its deepest recession since the early 1990s. In Sao Panlo, the nerve center of the economy, there were 1,035 courtordered requests in March to close companies, up only slightly from 982 in the same month last year. In March 1996, the number had totaled a record

These figures, combined with other data on inflation, foreign trade and industrial production, produce a picture of the Brazilian economy a lot less bleak than that painted by economists a month ago, when the country was ostracized after the chaotic devaluation of the currency, the real.

Now, instead of cautioning investors about the possibility of a domestic debt default, economists are working to convince people that a recovery could be swifter and stronger than initially

For instance, Alexandre Azara, an



A Rio de Janeiro shoe store worker in a window that reads "Superliquidation: 40 percent discount."

economist at Banco BBA Creditanstalt. said that after shrinking at a 3 percent rate in the first quarter compared with the last quarter of 1998, the gross domestic product should grow by half a percent in the second quarter and by as much as 2 percent in the fourth quarter of

As predictions of a return to hyperinflation and of an exchange rate spinning ont of control have given way to slower price increases and a strengthening real, Brazilian stock and bood markets bave responded with rallies

**CURRENCY RATES** 

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over the last several weeks unmatched by markets anywhere else. Explanations vary for this turnaround. Emilio Alfieri, the economist for the Sao

Paulo Commercial Association, said that many companies, resilient after a history of recessions, are wary of taking on risky evels of debt. 'Unlike the Sontheast Asians, we're

used to repeated, tranmatic recessions and high interest rates," Mr. Alfieri said. 'Surviving these crises has resulted in Darwinian selection.

Another perspective on why Brazilian companies have survived this latest bont with a rough economy may bave to do with what is known in Portuguese as the jeito, the ability of Brazilians to find clever solutions to legal, hureaucratic or financial quagmires "The jeim provides more space for

negotiating," said Roberto da Matta, an anthropologist at the University of Notre Dame who is considered an authority on

the sohject.

Held virtually as a national characteristic in Brazil, a country with a large and intricate bureaucracy, the jeito, or its diminutive jeitinho, is oow being employed hy many companies as their only

ployed by many companies as their only means of survival.

Mr. Pih cited the example of a jeito in which his company allows many clients up to 28 days to pay for bread, in effect extending an interest-free loan.

Smaller, cash-strapped companies can use this to cover immediate expenses.

while companies in a more comfortable position could invest in high-yield govemment bonds.

Mr. Pih's company keeps most of its clients, and thanks to the higher price of wheat, its revenue is expected to increase this year to about 130 million reals (\$76 million), from 100 million reals last year. The brunt of such an operation could

See REAL, Page 12

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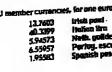
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Royalda National Bank (New York 1998)

#### THE AMERICAS

#### Investor's America N D 1999 Exchanga Index Tuesday @4PM Change Ciose 9963,49 . 10007.33 -0.44 The Dow 1317.89 1321.12 -0.24 U.S. S&P 500 665.29 664.86 +0.06 U.S. S&P 100 612.32 614.63 -0.38 U.S. NYSE Composite Nasdaq Composite 2563.16 2560.06 40.12 U.S. U.S. AMEX Composite 715.21 721.24 6768.50 6739.70 TSE Index Terente 11176.71 11021.53 +1.41 São Paulo Bovespa 5146.79 5101.94 +0.88 Mexico City Bolsa **Buenos Aires Merval** 437.97 IPSA General 4182.71 +0.37 Santiago Capital General 4291.83 +4.14

#### Very briefly:

• KPMG Canada and Arthur Andersen LLC called off plans to merge. less than a week after an Ontario judge extended the time that partners had to vote on the proposal. · Bueing Co. delivered 148 commercial jets in the first three months of 1999 on its way to a goal of a record 620 deliveries this year. Last year, it delivered 550 jetliners.

· Gillette Co.'s shares fell in early trading after a first-half profit warning from the company, which blamed weak sales in Latin America and in its line of Braun appliances.

•BP Amoco PLC paid \$45 million to buy control of the solarenergy business Solarex from Enron Corp., its former partner in the joint vecture.

 MCI WorldCom Inc. was reported to be negotiating to buy the wireless phone company Nextel Communications Inc. •Republic Industries Inc. changed its name to AutoNation Inc. to reflect its focus on selling and renting cars and trucks.

#### U.S. Leading Indicators Rise

The Associated Press

NEW YORK --- A key economic barometer rose for a fifth straight month in February, signaling that the U.S. economy should continue to thrive at least through the summer,

The Conference Board said Tuesday that the index of leading economic indicators rose 0.2 percent in Fehruary, in line with economists' expectations.

Four of the 10 indicators that make up the index rose, including consumer expectations. The index is intended to forecast economic activity six to nine months in advance. The Conference Board also reported that the coincident indicators, which measure current activity,

rose 0.3 percent and that the lagging index, which measures the economy's past performance, rose 0.2 percent in February.

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Tuesday, April 6

**Dow Jones** 

## Wal-Mart Pact With Amazon

By Mark Leibovich Washington Post Service

The U.S. retail powerhouse Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has agreed to settle a lawsuit against Amazon.com that charged the on-line bookseller with hiring several of its technology workers to illegally acquire trade secrets about Wal-Mart's elaborate computing systems.

The suit, originally filed last October, alleged that Seattlebased Amazon com had hired a group of former Wal-Mart employees — including Richard Dalzell, Amazon's chief information officer — for the purpose of gaining access to proprietary technology information.
Wal-Mart also sued the on-

line pharmacy Drugstore.com. of which Amazon owns 46 percent. and the Silicon Valley venture capital firm Kleiner Perkins Caulfield & Byers, which is an investor in Amazon. Mr. Daizell was also named in the suit individually.

Under the terms of the settlement, Amazon.com must reassign former Wal-Mart technology officials to jobs that do not parallel the ones they beld at Wal-Mart. The agreement includes no cash payment and no guilt by Amazon.com.

# Consumer Shares Weigh on Market

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks were mixed Tuesday as Gillette led consumer-product companies lower after the world's largest maker of razors said earnings would not meet expectations because of slow sales in Latin America.

Some technology shares rose, gainers on the New York Stock Exhowever, lifting the Nasdaq composite index. Consumer stocks such as Gillette

and Coca-Cola have been falling because of the weakness in economies outside the United States, said saw the same thing out of Coke." wheo it warned recently that sales were slowing in Laun America, Russia and Asia, he said.

The Dow Jones industrial average Stanley Consumer Index, which closed at 9,963.49, down 43.84 groups shares of 30 U.S. consumer points. The broader Standard & product companies, fell 1 percent.

Poor's index of 500 stocks lost 3.23 points to 1,317.89, while the Nasdaq edged up 3.10 points to close at 2.563.16.

Declining stocks outnumbered

U.S. STOCKS

change by a 3-to-2 ratio. Gillette slumped 7 13/16 to 49 15/16 after it said its first-quarter profit would be a penny a share less than analysts had predicted. Coke, which gets two-thirds of its sales Mark Tincher of the PaineWebber and three-quarters of its profit Growth and Income Fund. "You abroad lost 11/16 to 59 13/16. Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing, which makes and markets more than 50,000 products worldwide, fell 1 1/16 to 71 15/16. The Morgan Stanley Consumer Index, which

Some technology shares rose. Sun Microsystems soared 10% to 140% after the maker of computers that run Internet sites unveiled products that work with a rival operating system from that of Microsoft.

Intel rose 2 15/16 to 130 7/16 after an analyst at Lehman Brothers said the semiconductor industry's recovery from its worst recession ever was picking up steam.

U.S. honds rose for the second time in three days oo hopes that the cease-fire declared in Kosovo by Yugoslavia - and dismissed by NATO - would soon take hold. The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond rose 31/32 to 96 2/32; pushing the yield down to 5.52 percent from

5.59 percent. "The proposed ending of hos-tilities would make people feel bet-ter" said James Tesone of Carret & (Bloomberg, AP)

## Ford Sales In U.S. Rise Strongly

DETROIT - Ford Motor Co. said Tuesday that U.S. sales of North American-built vehicles rose 14 percent in March. beating expectations as consumer confidence and low inflation helped it set a record for truck sales.

Sales of sport-utility vehicles, pickup trucks and minivans rose 19 percent, to 249,812, from a year earlier, led by a 67 percent increase for the Ranger compact pickup. Sales of domestic cars rose 6.1 percent. Total Ford sales, including imported models and heavy trucks, rose 13 percent, to

399,908, a record for March.
"Ford is able to find ways to break bottlenecks to meet demand for light trucks," said David Garrity, auto analyst with GVA Research LLC. Ford's sales were expected to

rise 10 percent.

If General Motors Corp.'s March sales meet the expected 2 percent gain when it reports Wednesday, annual sales for the industry would approach a hlistering rate of 17 million vehicles for the third time in four months. Last week Daimler-Chrysler AG and Toyota Motor Corp. reported record firstquarter sales in the United

## Offer of Cease-Fire Helps Euro Rebound The pound fell to \$1.5925 from \$1.6000. But the dollar eased to

NEW YORK - The euro gained against the dollar Tuesday after Yugoslavia declared a temporary and unilateral cease-fire in Kosovo, even though the truce offer was im-

exchange at Erste Bank.

"It changes the picture from being very negative. Still, I wouldn't load up on euros right now. It's a hit In 4 P.M. trading, the euro rose to \$1.0835 from \$1.0715 on Monday. The dollar fell to 120.525 yen from 121.850 yen as Japanese exporters francs.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

that would stop the bombing, 'said Rainer Guidon, manager of foreign exchange at Erste Rank took advantage of the dollar's last October, producing some signs of a recovery. Still, British exporters and other parts of the economy could benefit from further to dollars. month high against the British pound amid expectations that Bank of England policymakers would lower interest rates when they met

1.4735 Swiss francs from 1.4765

England's central bank already has lowered its benchmark interest rate by two percentage points since

tions, analysts said. Many of them said they expected the Bank of England to reduce the rate further after its two-day meeting concludes Thursday.

set, but rather the fear that if Although there are sites any musician could send music around the world instantly

The record establishment

"I think this MP3 stuff is

going to destroy the music distribution system that's so entrenched in the United States. The fear is not about piracy: its about somebody like me. I spent \$7,000 on that thinks they know everything, CD, and I can get around all but they've miscalculated," their mechanisms."

4

#### MUSIC: Downloading From the Internet Goes Mainstream, Posing a Risk to Recording Industry Continued from Page 11 ing by shutting down hun-music during lunch. He added bels, the problem is that copy-music, however, say that it is said Mr. Wathen, 46, of the dreds of unauthorized sites a that less than 5 percent of the ing and sharing CDs with a not unauthorized music copy-Richard Morris CD he pro-

rapid acceptance of listening

to music as MP3 files, which are almost CD quality, instead of CDs has caught them unprepared.

Anyone with a decent Internet connection can easily download, for free and within minutes, software to play MP3 files, programs to convert songs from CDs into MP3 files and the music itself, which is mostly free and easy to find on line, Industry analysts expect that a million portable internet music players will be sold by Christmas.

In cases where it can cite

copyright infringement, the

recording industry is counter-

downloading music that protects against unauthorized Robinson and selling consumer market-ing information, has noticed

that the peak time that music is listened to on his site is now 1 P.M. Weekend downloads have dropped dramatically, This, he said, suggests that office workers are looking for

week through lawsuits and le- music downloaded on his site, large group has suddenly be- ing that has the industry upgal demands. Meanwhile, it is where some one million come far too easy. racing to develop by the hol- songs are downloaded a iday season a system of week, came from school email addresses.

This is a trend confirmed MP3.com, which like most o2hmusic.com, which uses a legitimate companies offer- more sophisticated digital ing free downloads makes its compression system known money through advertising as AAC. Educational servers of traffic and peak downloading hours are from 11 A.M. to

> According to the Recording Industry Association of missed royalties for song-America, a trade group representing the major record la-

where music, mostly by unsigned acts, can be down- on the Internet, the recording loaded legally at no cost or for companies would lose control by another popular site for a small fee, there are also of music distribution. downloads, thousands of computer users distributing their favorite CD, bootleg tape or even new, unreleased material from an artist in the same way that have dropped to just 7 percent they used to trade cassette tapes, all at no charge.

And, of course, behind every unauthorized download there are a few pennies in writers and record labels. Advocates of downloading

Est. sales: 13,540, Prev. sales: 15,121 Prev. open lot.: 229,417 up 1,538

HEATING OIL CHMER

Industrials

43.40 43.95 43.65 44.14 44.07 44.29 44.40 44.84 45.05 45.84 45.05 45.84 45.70 46.09 46.35 46.59

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14.89 14.80 14.33 + 0.22 13,422
14.88 14.73 14.27 + 0.31 17,444
14.74 14.56 14.64 + 0.31 48,577

Continued from Page 11

fall on the government, which has to pay high interest on the notes purchased by some of Mr. Pih's savvy clients. A larger deht load, in turn, fuels concern over the growth of the hudget deficit. The failure to cut spending at the end of 1997 was cited by critics of the government as a leading reason for the attack by speculators on the real, which culminated in the January

REAL: Brazil's Tough Survivors

Since then, the government has been forced to renegotiate ith the International Monetary Fund to obtain new loans of \$9.8 billion to help strengthen the country's finances.

Whether Brazil can make progress in narrowing its budget deficit will be watched closely. Even government officials have expressed some surprise at the improving economic signals, while cautiously warning that much hard ahead in trimming spending.

However, the impact of the currency devaluation has worried economists, with some expecting the deficit, including interest payments, to reach more than 13 percent of gross domestic product in January and perhaps 14 percent in February and March, compared with 8 percent at the end of 1008

■ Central Bank Cuts Benchmark Lending Rate

Brazil cut interest rates Monday for the second time in two weeks, as lower-than-expected inflation allowed the central bank to ease borrowing costs to pull the economy out of recession, Bloomberg News reported.

The central bank cut the benchmark overnight lending rate to 39.5 percent a year from 42 percent. The new rate, effective on Tuesday, was also made possible as capital flows have stabilized, economists said.

Brazilian companies and consumers have cnt new spending to a minimum in recent months as the central bank raised borrowing costs to squeeze demand. The lowering of rates could encourage some spending.

Brazil also needs to cut rates sharply to help ease borrowing costs for companies and to reduce government debt payments. now estimated at about 6 billion reals a month.

More rate cuts are expected soon by many economists.

"Real interest rates remain at around 25 percent even after

the cut, in our view higher than they need to be," said Adam Weiner, an emerging market strategist at ING Barings.

Odair Abate, an economist at Lloyds Bank PLC, said that he expected the central bank to cut rates further, to 36 percent or 37 percent, at its next regularly scheduled monetary policy council meeting on April 14.

#### INTEREST RATES

Tuesday, April 6

Government Debt 3-mont 4.820 2.760 2.970 2.310 0.095 2.800 2.750 2510

2.760 2.830 2.460 0.105 2.780 2.870

4½ 74 4½ 4.89 4.80 0.50 0.04 0.19 0.20 0.20 **Libor Rates** <u>Epro zone</u>

3.06 2.97 2.93 2.91 2.89 2.97

| Deliar | 1,753 | 1,243 | 1,383 | 1,383 | 1,383 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,385 | 1,3 3.00 2.99 2.94 2.94 2.92 2.94 Forward Rates 30-day 1,5866 1,5036 1,2749 120,56 **60-647** 1.5852 1.5039 120.13

**Gold Fixings** 

حدد امن الأرصل

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#### Tuesday, April 6 High Low Lotest Chae Opint Grains EURODOLLARS (CMER) \$1 million-pts of 100 pct. Aur 99 95.00 95.00 95 1-pts of 100 pct, 95.07 95.00 95.00 Unch, 36,840

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

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101 50 101 50 40,000 (b) COFFEE CINCSEI

237.500 fts: cents per la 1361 % 107.70 105.80 106.40 Jul % 107.70 107.50 108.00 Jul % 107.70 107.50 107.80 Sea 99 107.75 109.25 109.80 Dec 95 111.25 110.75 111.00 Man 00 112.75 117.60 111.25 5-3 543 -001 5-3 543 -001 517 5.38 Unch. 5-4 581 Unch 4-78 4-73 -007

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# Palestinian Authority Plans Sovereign Debt Issue

New York Times Service

RAMALLAH, West Bank -Entering the so-called sovereign debt markets woold represent a breakthrough for the Palestinian Authority, which has been unable to he declined to identify, were pre-

autonomous territory controlled militarily by Israel. The finance official, Mohammed Palestinian Authority expected to

Of 35% of Telecom

SpA's shares as part of its \$65 billion

bolders rejecting management pro-

shares into common stock and to

Telecom Italia investors will

Olivetti coold still effectively

cootrol Telecom Italia with some-

thing at around 35 percent, and the

cost of the acquisition would be.

significantly smaller," said Deirdre

Ernest, an analyst at Caboto SIM in

Italia Mobile SpA.

Saturday

Ling Indust

cial import monopolies that went unreported in previous budgets. Mr.

Routine expenses in the Pales-burdles to sening bonds, meaning unreported in previous budgets. Mr.

tinian region are met largely from out the legal complications of a and foreign dooors are no longer

willing to bridge the gap. Mr. Nasbashibi said in an ioterpay most of its bills with tax revenue, including income from offi- be issued as soon as June, he said.

provide collateral for a commercially viable bood issue on its own.

There is some precedent for seraise money on the markets with its pared to provide backing for Palas the Brady bonds from Brazil and ambiguous status as a semiestinian bonds that would be sold in Mexico, which carried repayment European markets. He said he was guarantees from the U.S. Treasury. Regotiating the size and pricing of a Bot these were still boods issued by bond issue with major investment independent states, with their own Nashashibi, said Monday that the banks that were prepared to serve as national assets and formal standing underwriters. The bonds, to be de- in the World Bank and the Inter-

Nashashibi spoke as be submitted sales taxes and customs levies colout the legal complications of a The Palestinian Authority hopes to council here. But a projected 10 Palestinian Treasury under an analyst in London, who requested cover part of a \$150 million budget. his 1999 budget to the legislative lected by Israel but passed on to the bood issue. An emerging-markets deficit this year by selling the first not keeping up with a 25 percent no uncootested claim on sovereign lems were overcome, there might be authority's financial affeire shief interested in buying such an issue, despite the risks involved.

He ooted that Lebanon had sold view that some governments, which curities from poor rations being small Eurobond issues at more favorable interest rates than many Latin American countries because 2 large oumber of Lebanesc and other Middle East expatriates were willing to buy such debt securities.

Palestinian critics, meanwhile, have demanded a public accounting of revenue from state agencies with tribute fuel and other goods.

#### exclusive rights to import and dis-The Palestinians face several

Olivetti Sets Goal PHONE: Ambitious Mannesmann Sends a Wake-Up Call Continued from Page 11

IVREA, Italy — Olivetti SpA said Tuesday it would accept oo less Plettenberg, spokesman for the Mannesmann group. than 35 percent of Telecom Italia

In one stroke, Mannesmann eliminated one of its biggest rivals and expanded its own network and cusbid to take over its bigger rival.

Olivetti also said its offer was conditional on Telecom Italia sharetomer base. It also prevented competitors from buying o.tel.o, even as RWE and VEBA were in talks with two other companies about a posposals to convert nonvoting savings sible sale.

"For competition in the German boy oot the cellular unit, Telecom telecommunications market, this takeover is devastating," the business daily Handelsblatt commented meet to talk about the first move in an editorial. "It is already clear now that Arcor has established an Olivetti previously said it sought unrecoverable advantage over its at least 67 perceot of Telecom rivals." Even after the o.tel.o expansion, Mannesmann remains on an "expansion course," Mr.

Pletteoberg said. Mannesmann is positioned to become the surprise victor if Olivetti SpA succeeds in its unsolicited \$60 billioo bid to acquire Telecom Italia SpA, as Olivetti is prepared to sell

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Jakarta

finance the deal. The German oewcomer would acquire all of Infostrade SpA, Italy's secondbiggest fixed-oetwork operator behind Telecom Italia, and a 55 percent stake of Omnitel Prooto Italia SpA, Italy's second-biggest wire-

less-phone group.

Analysts predicted that Mannesmann's aggressiveness would trigger a wave of mergers and consolidations in Germany's telecoms market.

Fifteen months after the market liberalization, a telephone duopoly of Tclekom and Mannesmann has crystalized," Handelsbiatt commented. "The many smaller rivals must oow react: more mergers are coming." "Consolidation has just started."

said Joeri Sels, telecoms industry analyst at Bank Julius Baer (Deutschland) AG in Frankfurt. The o.tel.o deal adds connections

to networks in Belgium, Britain, the takeover, said that Mannesmann Denmark and Switzerland to Arcor's would save money on future in-

1977期《礼记》《3月577》13名《《加尔56》276,1797年《《《《加尔56》276,1977年《加尔77》276,1977年《加尔77》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年《加尔56》276,1978年(1978年)276年,1978年(1978年)276年,1978年)276年,1978年,197

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its, existing. Italian operations to With Olivetti's business, it would Mannesmann for 14.9 hillion DM to become one of the most powerful become one of the most powerful phone companies in Europe, analysts said, in the same league as British Telecom PLC and AT&T Corp., which also are forging a joint pan-European telecoms business.

Mannesmann Arcor acquires o.tel.o's switching equipment and brand name, which it will keep separate. It also wins o.tel.o's 1,000 large business customers, which include Dresdoer Bank AG, as well as 'several thousand medium-sized firms," Mr. Stoeber said. In addition, it ends up with o.tel.o's Internet service provider, germany.net. Nevertheless, Mr. Sels at Bank

Julius Baer said the deal suffered from overlapping networks in the German market. "A hig reasoo for the purchase

was to prevent someooe else from buying it," he said, Mr. Stoeber, defending the cost of

links to Austria, France and Italy. frastructure investment

# **Takeover** Of SocGen Is Rejected

PARIS - Societe Generale SA said Tuesday its supervisory board had voted to reject a S19.2 hillion hostile takeover bid from Banque Nationale de Paris SA, although one member of the board dissented.

Meanwhile, a response was expected late in the day from Paribas SA to a S19.7 hillioo takeover bid from BNP.

BNP said Claude Bebear, chairman of the French insurer AXA, who also sits on Paribas's board, had voted to accept BNP's offer. The project proposed by BNP "presents major risks in its execution for share-holders." Societe Generalc said in a statement.
BNP's separate share-swap

bids for the two banks, which would create the only bank in the world with S1 trillioo in assets, came in the middle of an agreed S19 billion bid for Paribas by Societe Generale, which is also a share swap.

Analysts and investors polled by Bloomberg News had expected Societe Generale to reject the hid, though three-quarters of those polled said they though acgotiations could be possible at a later date.

The announcement came after the close of stock-market trading. BNP shares fell 1.70 euros, or 2.1 percent, to 78.30 euros (\$84.56), while Societe Generalc shares rose 2.00 euros, or 1.1 percent, to 180.40 euros, and Paribas shares fell 0.50 euro, or 0.5 percent, to

> To Our Readers Shenzhen slock market prices were not available

> Tuesday due to problems at

the source.

Singapore

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Brussels	8EL-20	3,298,06 3,265.25 +1.04
Frenkfurt	DAX	4,965,29 4,914.59 +1.03
Copenhagen	Stock Market	608.45 599.01 +1:58
Helsinki.	HEX General	6,842.26 6,746.09 +1:43
Oslo	OBX .	561.78 560.87 +0.16
London	FTSE 100	6,415,30 6,380.00 +1,35
Madrid	Stock Exchange	887.83 B66.73 +2.43
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Paris	CAC 40	4,304.48 4,229.85 +1.76
Stockholm	SX 16 · ·	4,439.61 4,263.97 +4.12
Vienna .	.XTA	1,207.12 1,193.93 +1:10
Zurich	SPI	4,560.65 4,536.80 +0,53
ource: Telekurs		International Horald Tribun

#### Very briefly:

 Salomon Smith Barney Inc. raised its 1999 earnings growth estimate for euro zone companies to 7 percent from 4 perceot three months ago. Prospects have improved because of a weaker euro, a stronger U.S. economy and rising oil prices. Austria's unemployment rate fell to 4.3 percent in March from 4.4 percent in February amid rising employment in the huilding industry and strong employment in tourism.

 Ceneupac SA, a Luxembourg-registered company set up by the U.S. investment funds Argus Funds and Croesus Central European Advisers Ltd., offered to buy Cofinec NV, a packaging company based in Budapest, a week after Hungary's capital markets watchdog balted trading in Cofinec stock and began investigating suspected insider trading.

• Premier Oil PLC of Britain has pulled out of a multimillioodollar deal to develop Iran's offshore Balai oil field because of financing problems, an industry source said.

•Spain's ucemployment rate in March fell to its lowest since December 1981, helped by an increase in permanent job cootracts. The jobless rate fell to 10.78 percent from 10.94 percent in February.

#### **WORLD STOCK MARKETS**

Tuesday, April 6
Prices in local currencies:

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#### **Markets Closed**

Stock markets were closed Tuesday in Bangkok, Hong Kong and Tel Aviv for local holidays.

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CARESSING THE DAMASK COVERLET THE TEMASEK SU

he reflected misty-eyed on times past. Fifty years it had been since he had slept with his beloved wife io this very same suite. It had been their wedding night. How he wished she were there now. Half a century ago, and yet it seemed like yesterday. Tears sprang unbidden as recollections of their hooeymoon, fresh as the Orchids on the bedside table, bloomed in his memory. The scent and soft colours of the room captured his remioiscences causing time to stand still. A gentle knock at the door roused him from his reverie. Opeoing it, he found a Bell Boy laden with shiny all right, sir?' he geotly packages. 'Is everything bout my late wife enquired. Just thinking somewhat forlornly. 'I'm respooded the gentleman,

the lady in question, as girlishly as she had some fifty years before.

about my late wife somewhat forfornly. The somewhat forfornly is a somewhat forfornly. The somewhat forfornly is a somewhat forfornly. The somewhat forfornly is a somewhat for s

Continued on Page 15

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1999 PAGE 15 NASDAO Tuesday's 4 P.M. The 1,000 most traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year. De 11d PE 1001 High Law Lates Cope THE RESERVE THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE のでは、「ないできない。」では、「ないできない」というできない。 は、これでは、「ないできない。」では、「ないできない」というできない。「ないできない。」では、「ないできない。」では、「ないできない。 127. 94 6 下午下十分子中で 新行記録は 中華を 世 强 **AMEX** THE STATES OF THE SHARES WITH THE PARTY. Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close Lycome DISA Disan Disan Disan Deponded Deville Digitoria Digitoria Digitoria Digitoria Digitoria Digitoria Digitoria Emerita E Some the second 154 184 16 5 XXXX 16 7 XXX 16 18 THE STREET OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF T u-sighighteraghearis tha hitherarandina a ia The state of the s CALLES & ROSEC BESCHER SECURIOR SECURIO THE PARTY OF THE P 世年 明明 明明 ののはないのである これのはないのである **新新教育的** THE PARTY OF THE PROPERTY OF T 70 70 25 70 a 15 70 a 16 70 a STATE OF STA BootsCis-Borme a -Brilloning Britaning Britaning Friedrich (CPF 1ch COVP 1ch COVP 1ch COVP 1ch CONTROL (Control Control Control Control (Control Cover) Control (Control Cover) Control (Control Cover) Control (Cover) Cover) Cover (Cover) Cover (Cov Huntered Honston S. Honse Art Hunter Helman Peternsky Helman Research Honse Weeke IPC mate S Honse Weeke Honse Wee 8759 713 897 314 252 392 449 845 250 845 744 527 744 527 744 Called Ca STATE OF THE PARTY **NYSE** 12 Month
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## INTERNATIONAL INVESTING

### The 'Bull Market Generation' May Get Its Reality Check LEICOM FUND rd Emmanuel Servats, L-2535 L R.C. Lussembourg B 21 454

AVIS AUX ACTIONNAIRES

Messieurs les actionnaires sont convoqués par le présent aus à L'ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ORDINAIRE DES **ACTIONNAIRES** 

qui se nendra au siège social à luxembrurg le 26 Avril 1999 à 151-30. avec l'Ordre du jour suivant

#### ORDRE DU IOUR

- L Compte rendu d'activité du Conseil d'Administration pour l'exercice se terminant le 31 Décembre 1998
- 2 Rappon du Réviseur d'Entreprises pour l'extrace se terminant le 3t Décembre 1998
- 3 Adoption des comptes de l'exercice se terminant le 31 Décembre 1998. Affectation du résultat de l'exercice se terminant le 31 Décembre 1998.
- 5. Décharge aux Administrateurs et au Réviseur d'Entreprises pour l'exercice se terminant le 31 Décembre 1998.
- 6. Nomination des organes sociation:
- Nommation des Admenstrateurs Nomination du Réviseur d'Entreprisch

Les actionnaires sont informes qu'aucun quorum tres requis pour cete assemblée et que les décisions sont prises à la majorité simple des actions présentes ou représentess.

Chaque action a un droit de vote.

Tout apionnare peut voter par manchiaire. A cette fin. des producations sont disponibles at siège social et seront envoyées atta actionnaires sur demande.

Afin d'être valables, les procurations d'ument signées par les actionnaires devront être envoyées au siège social afin d'être reques le jour précédant l'assemblée à 17 heures au plus tard

Les propriétaires d'actions au porteur, déstrant participer à cette assemblée, devyors déposer leurs actions carq jours ouvrables avant l'assemblée au siège socral de la sociéé.

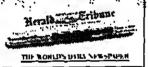
les actionnaires désireux d'obtenir le Ripport Annuel Audité au 31 Décembre 1998 peuvent s'adresser au siège social de la société.

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Sarah Wershof to our London office



By Allan Sloan EW YORK - We have had a Depression Gener-

today's investors as the Bull Market The longest postwar rally on Wall Street - which began Aug. 12. 1982, with the Dow Jones industrial average at 776.92 points, and has just seen the 30-stock index crash

event, for most investors under 40. Before 1982, stock investing was almost an exotic art, restricted to a relative handful of sophisticates and risk-takers. Now it is commonplace. Back then, people relied mostly on corporate pensions and Social Sement plans they manage themselves.

ative event, if not the formative

about \$13 trillion these days, up from about \$1 trillion in 1982, according to Wilshire Associates Inc. have made far more in stock-option The increase — call it \$12 trillion — profits, realized and unrealized, than works out to more than \$40,000 for Microsoft has paid them in salary. Generation. Think of every man, woman and child in the So not only has Microsoft helped United States, Granted, the

wealth is not spread evenly. with a relative handful of high-income types owning owned by non-Americans. But the wealth sloshing around, courtesy of the market, is astounding. through 10.000 - has been a form-

Higher-than-expected tax revenue from people cashing in their market gains have allowed states to balance their budgets and let the federal govemment claim to be running a budget surplus for the first time in 30 years.

Much of the high-tech boom is due to the stock market, and much of curity 10 finance their retirement. the market boom is due to high-tech Now people rely heavily on retire- companies. Here is how it works: At and Social Security is in such trouble are a common form of payment. As that politicians are thinking of trying a result. America's best and bright-to use the stock market to bail it out. est senie for relatively low salaries. Standard & Poor's 500 have sel re-

big money. At Microsoft Corp., employees

WALL STREET WATCH

most of it. And some U.S. stocks are power the stock market, but the market has helped power Microsoft by acting as its best recruiting tool. The higher stock prices climb, the more eager people are to work for options rather than eash salaries.

Stocks have so permeated American society that permanent doubledigit investment returns are taken as a given and thousands of people are abandoning traditional careers to set themselves up as day traders.

You have to wonder when the music will stop. This market is high-tech companies, stock options are a common form of payment. As ation standards and is starting to feel very fragile. While the Dow and the

The U.S. stock market is worth because options give them a shot at cord after record, much of the marthe S&P, a far bigger sample than the

to a mere two dozen or so issues.

States, Japan, which has

well below their mid-1960s prices. bonds yielded about 13 percent, compared with about 5.5 percent now; the prime lending rate of banks was 14.5 percent double the level today; the

interest rate on mortgages was 16 percent - if you could get one. bad times to continue indefinitely.

the bull market - that "buying on ket is well down from its highs. Even dips" has become an article of faith. Contrast this generation's expe-30-stock Dow, owes much of its rise rience with what happened to those

a mere two dozen or so issues.

When the bull market started, when the bull market started, started the bull market started. pessimism permeated the United crossed 1,000 (it closed at 995). through Dec. 17, 1982, when it been in the dumper for a broke 1.000 permanently, the Dow decade now, was the hot went nowhere, and it took some market, Its industries and horrific dives along the way. This stock market were thriving; the period lasted about as long as the United States seemed permanently current bull market has and taught

blighted. American stocks were an entirely different lesson. Now people know - or think American interest rates were in they know—that stocks only go up, double digits — 10-year Treasury In the '60s, '70s and early '80s, the lesson was that stocks went down or. if you were lucky, sideways,

Nothing good — or bad — lasts forever. Even as we celebrate Dow 10,000, let us remember that markets really go down sometimes and Just as most people then expected stay down for years. And let us also remember, when we hear talk that people now expect good times to this boom, unlike others, will go on continue indefinitely. Stocks have forever, that the four words most risen so fast for so long — up almost dangerous to your v 1.200 percent in the 16-plus years of time it's different. dangerous to your wealth are, "This

# Western Investors Raise Funds for 'Distressed' Asian Firms

HONG KONG - Chase Asia Equity Partners, a unit of Chase Manhattan Corp., and six other intemptional money managers are answering Asia's distress call.

Chase is raising \$750 million for its new Asian Opportunity Investment Fund, the second-biggest of its kind. American International Group Inc. has already established a \$1 billion fund to buy stakes in ailing Asian firms, according to Asia Pacific Private Equity Bulletin, a Hong Kong-based newsletter that tracks direct investments.

The trend is one of the biggest efforts yet to meet the needs of thousands of Asian businesses caught in the throes of insolvency. Buried by debt, companies in South Korea. Thailand, Hong Kong and almost every other Asian nation are sacrificing autonomy for cash and exprising for cash and exp

pertise needed to survive.

There's an increasing attraction to investing in this manner in Asia." said Desmond Supple, the Singapore-based head of Asian research at Barclays Capital, Private equity investing is "more hands-on" than er. Three new funds are being set up

ically get more control. And it is potentially more lucra-

tive. Mr. Supple said. Last year, about \$2 billion, or 30 percent of a total \$6.5 billion raised for Asian private equity investments, was earmarked for distressed simutions" - companies left with little choice but to sell stakes to new investors willing to payments, or just to stay in busi-

The numbers of recovery funds have ballooned," said Kathleen Ng. the newsletter's editor and publishbuying securities, as investors buy-ing directly into a company typ-most SI billion into distressed Asian corporations, a rate so fast Ms. Ng said it should signal caution.

The mania in distressed situations is similar to the 1994-1995 period when infrastructure funds mushroomed," she said, "The infrastructure euphoria bas since dissipated, with no infrastructure fund

established in the past 18 months. By the middle of this month, \$650 shore up their finances to make debt million will have been raised from a pool of \$800 million committed this

geting distressed companies, ac-cording to the Private Equity Bul-Many more have said they ar

Many more have said they are growing — month by month, it slanning to follow. Lazard Asia seems—they're still dwarfed by the Ltd., a subsidiary of Lazard Freres & Co., said it was doubling its \$250 said. million principal investment fund. Last month, the firm bought control of Hong Kong's Sing Tao Holdings Ltd., publisher of the city's oldest

Chinese-language newspaper. This type of investor, also known as a "vulture fund." is typically than portfolio managers who buy stocks and bonds. Those who stick with their choices - managers who can be returned to profitability in aim for annualized returns of more

than 25 percent equity still exceeds supply. Mr. the largest private equity invest-

"As it stands, while the funds are needs of the corporate sector."

Reaffirms &

Of the \$1.5 billion invested in Asian private equity sioce January 1998, 45 percent will be directly speot helping firms restructure, ac-cording to Ms. Ng.

Included among those transactions are a joint project by the Caligeared to taking a longer-term bet fornia Public Employees' Retirement System and the International Finance Corp. to buy stakes in distressed Asian companies and the buy stakes in companies they think purchase of 28,11 percent of Ssangyong Investment & Securities about three to five years - often Co. by a unit of Hambrecht & Quist. the Government of Singapore Investment Corp. and other investors And the demand for private for \$150 million. The latter is one of

April 6, 1999 INTERNATIONAL FUNDS Advertisement For information please contact. Lyora Raab: Fax (33-1) 41 43 92 12 or e-mail: funds@iht.com M ARN AMRO Freds Tel; 152 Asia Band
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#### ASIA/PACIFIC

# Is Japan Inc. Reform Real? To Markets, Perhaps

By Stephanie Strom New York Times Service

TOKYO - In the past week, a number of Japanese companies have announced overhauls, including job cutbacks and internal realignments previously considered taboo in corporate Japan, and investors have bloated management hierarchies. quickly bought into these promises.

On April I alone, four major Japanese companies — Marubeni Corp., Sogo Co., Taisei Corp. and Hitachi Ltd. — pledged to reform their business practices, following similar announcements by Sony Corp., NEC Corp. and Toshiba Corp.

In the past, investors would bave regarded the string of announcements as a bad April Fool's joke. Everyone regarded Japanese promises to restructure balance sheets and streamline operations as little more than lip service to gain a few more months of goodwill until the economy picked up and sales growth erased obvious problems. Restructuring implied job cuts.

KUALA LUMPUR - The

ciously to its selective capital ex-

by Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, the

change control measures.

Malaysian government said Tues-day it would increase liquidity and and contributing towards the res-

day it would increase liquidity and lower interest rates to spur economic growth, but would cling tena-

The policy was outlined in a 1999 after last year's first recession

white paper presented in Parliament in 13 years sliced 6.7 percent off the

were socially and politically unpalatable. Therefore, Japanese companions and another kind of mini-bubble is being Tokyo. "These credit guarantees, another kind of mini-bubble is being Tokyo." These credit guarantees, another kind of mini-bubble is being the bubble is being the bubble is being the bubble in the bubble in the bubble is being the bubble in the bubble in the bubble is being the bubble in the atable. Therefore, Japanese companies did not risutora, restructure.

Last week alone, however, big corporations slated more than 25,000 jobs for elimination, promised to reconsider their investments in moneylosing businesses and pare their

Kathy Matsui, chief strategist at Goldman Sachs (Japan) Ltd., considers many of the announcements to be genuine plans.

The stock market has marched ahead, largely on the enthusiasm of

foreign investors.

"There are signs of political will," said Scott Hartz, head of management consulting services at Price Waterhouse Coopers Management Consulting Services. "I feel more encouraged.

But the benchmark Nikkei stock index already has soared past 16,000 yen, the level at which stocks would be fairly priced in anticipation of such returns, according to Ms. Matsui.

The central bank has forecast a

modest growth rate of 1 percent for

gross domestic product.
Malaysia's capital controls in-

Malaysia Reaffirms Exchange Controls

created in the stock market - and we all know what happens to bubbles to get companies to survive rather in the Japanese stock market."

Mr. Nakamae and others, including some government officials, believe that the government is getting in the way of corporate reform as it works to stimulate demand. Sales growth will paper over such problems as excess labor and capacity rather than force companies to address them, they say.

The government is doing everysued shopping coupons, cut taxes production lines.

and increased its loan-guarantee Mr. Chudler so lowered short-term interest rates effectively to nothing, which allows overextended corporate borrowers to maintain that condition rather

than overhaul their balance sheets. The government is trying to Restructuring implied job cuts, whether through attrition or by eliminating excess capacity, and job cuts between perception and reality is crategist at

Analysts bave said the controls

lower interest rates and other efforts

Mr. Abdullah said domestic con-

sumption was expected to be the

main engine of growth.

"Measures introduced to increase liquidity and lower interest

toward recovery.

the bank bailout, they 're all an effort than having them fail and making way for new types of business."

He and others argue that the govemment is unprepared for the social costs of the unemployment and bank-ruptcies that would accompany a major overhaul of the corporate sector.

Thus, the job cuts that have caught the eyes of investors are, at a closer glance, often merely promises to restrict employment and enthing it can to encourage wary cit-izens and businesses to spend. It has bandful of companies have anbegun large-scale public works, is- nounced plans to close factories or

Mr. Chudler said that despite the program. The Bank of Japan has cost-cutting that has been announced, costs as a percentage of sales would rise again this year, after baving posted a record last year.

Investors are buying nonetheless.
When Missubishi Electric Corp., widely regarded as one of the more conservative companies in Japan, announced plans last week to cut 14,500 jobs in three years, it helped push its stock price up more than 20

Two-thirds of the cuts will be made by sbifting workers to affiliates and to universities. In other words, by passing the problem on.

"The selective exchange control bid to shield the economy from exmeasures introduced in September cessive speculation. ■ A Meeting on Capacity Cuts

Representatives of top Japanese banks and companies met to work have helped set the groundwork for on a government supported plan to erase excess capacity in thousands of factories. Bloomberg News re-

ported from Tokyo. The meeting between executives of the Keidanren, or the Federation of Economic Organizations, and the Federation of Bankers Association of Japan appears to reflect increasing recognition that the economy

## For Nissan, A Pension Gap to Fill

Commind to Our Stat From Proper has

TOKYO - Nissan Motor Co. said Tuesday it had a shortfall in its pension fund of 580 billion yen (\$4.76 billion) because of international accounting standards the company will adopt in the financial year that starts on April 1, 2000.

Under the new rules, the debtladen automaker, in which the French automaker Renault SA last month agreed to invest \$5.4 billion for a 37 percent stake. will have to subtract the pension shortfall from consolidated pretax profit said a Nissan spokesman, Masataka Saito.

The sbortfall may shrink, however, if the government lets companies transfer stocks and other assets in their investment portfolios to fund such liabilities, Mr. Saito said, Many Japanese pension funds are suf-

fering from falling returns.
Nissan has \$19.9 billion in debt. Renault Japan, a subsidiary of the French automaker, refused to comment on whether it had taken account of Nissan's pension shortfall in assessing how much to pay for its stake.

Separately. Nissan declined to comment on a report by the daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun that it would post a greaterthan-expected parent pretax loss in the year ended March 31 due to falling domestic sales. Nissan's shares closed Tuesday at 462 yen, up 21.

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Sydney	All Ordinaries	3,032	.90 2,973.40	+2.00
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	16,47	9.71 16,334.7	8 +0.89
Kuala Lumpu	Composite	556.9	3 535.84	+3.94
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Jakarta	Composite in	dex 395.5	1 395.34	+0.04
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,135	.18 2,147.78	-0.59
Bombay	Sensitive Inde	x 3,569	.47 3,519.39	+1.42

#### Very briefly:

· Evergreen Group of Taiwan said it would not buy a stake in Japan Airlines Co. from its top shareholder. Eitaro Itoyama. • The United States is one step away from slapping punitive tariffs on stainless steel round wire from Japan and five other countries. The Clinton administration found that those countries illegally price the steel in the United States. Tariffs of as much as 36 percent will be imposed if an independent agency finds that the practices have injured U.S. producers.

 Mitsui Chemicals Inc. will cut 650 jobs and sell assets, and it raised its forecast for pretax profit in the financial year through March 31, 2000, to 62 billion yen (\$510 million) up from a forecast of 48 billion yen.

 South Korea's government will begin selling shares in Korea Telecom Co. to foreign investors next month, aiming to raise as much as \$1.7 billion, the company said,

	deputy prime minister, to exp the status of the Malaysian econ and its prospects following the r 1997 Asian financial crisis.	omy cluded a peg of 3.8 ringgit to the	<ul> <li>rates provided the enabling envi</li> <li>onment for the gradual improv</li> <li>ment in investor sentiment," 1</li> </ul>	of Japan appears to reflect increas- ing recognition that the economy will not climb out of recession until more companies cut costs.	due to falling domestic sales. Nissan's shares closed Tuesday at 462 yen, up 21. (Bloomberg, Reuters)	South Korea's government will begin selling shares in Kore Telecom Co. to foreign investors next month, aiming to raise a much as \$1.7 billion, the company said.     India will end subsidies to exporters in two years as part of it commitment to the World Trade Organization.  Blenmber.
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# Australia Protests

TENNIS Australia will appeal to the International Tennis Federation over the site of its Davis Cup quarterfinal against the United States, Tennis Australia president Geoff Pollard said Tuesday. Under cup rules, Australia should host the the because the last clash between the two nations was in the United States. But before this year's com-petition, the ITF guaranteed the United States a tie in Boston to commenorate the centenary of the first Davis Cup tie.

John Newcombe, Australia's captain, said the team had oot protested before because it did not know it would be affected: "We didn't argue our case because we weren't there." (Reuters, AP) (Reuters, AP)

#### Vikings Sign Jeff George

FOOTBALL The Minnesota Vikings said Monday they had reached a contract agreement with Jeff George for a job as backup quarterback, George, who started for Outlead last seven polynome Person Oakland last season, replaces Brad Johnson, who was traded to Washington in February.

#### Canadieus Eliminated

ICE HOCKEY The Montreal Canadiens, 24-time Stanley Cup champions, were eliminated from postseason contention for only the third time since 1940. Boston's Byron Dafoe posted his t0th shutout and his second in a row as the Bruins beat Montreal, 3-0, on

#### Langer Scores Century

CRICKET Justin Langer made 127 Tuesday as Australia took command of the fourth and final test against the West Indies in Antigua. Australia was all out for 306 in its second innings and led by 387 in a match it needs to win to square the series. (AFP)

#### U.S. Youths Beat England

SOCCER Dan Califf, a defender from the University of Maryland, headed a comer kick into the goal in the 11th minute Monday to give the United States a 1-0 victory over England in Kano. Nigeria, in the World Youth Championship. The United States is tied for the Group E lead with Cameroon, which beat Japan, 2-1, on Monday.



Gift Kampamba celebrating a goal as Zambia beat Honduras, 4-3, in the world youth cup.

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## WORLD ROUNDUP On a Roll, **Duval Looks** To Augusta

World's Dominant Golfer Seeks First Major Title

By Clifton Brown

On the final day of last year's Masters, David Duvil appeared on the verge of

He reached the 16th tee holding a three-stroke lead. Even after making a bogey at No. 16. Duval made pars at both

No. 17 and No. 18 to stay in the lead. After he left the 18th green, Duval and several friends were whisked into a private cabin to watch Mark O Meara and Fred Couples finish. At worst, Duval figured his final-round 67 had secured a playoff spot. But the next few minutes became the most disappointing of his

With birdies at No. 15 and No. 17, O'Meara tied Duval, And as O'Meara stood over his 20-foot birdie attempt at No. 18. Duval sat helplessly on a couch. watching TV as the title slipped away.
"Don't worry, David, nobody makes

that putt." Duval recalled the former Augusta National chairman Jack Stephens as saying before O'Meara struck the ball. O'Meara sank the pun, Duval's heart

After congratulating Duval for his fine play, Stephens left to find O'Meara. the new Masters champion. Duval was left trying to grasp what had happened.
"It was a shock, but in a way, it wasn't

a surprise, not with Mark puning."
Duval recalled. "How could I be bitter? I shot five under par Sunday at the Masters. That's nothing to scoff at. And I proved to myself that I could handle that

A year later, Duval is ranked No. 1 in the world. On Sunday, he won his fourth event of the year and his second straight star: the BellSouth Classic. He already has won more than \$2.5 million to break the earnings record he set last year.

But when the Masters begins Thursday, Duval, in his quest to win his first major championship, will try to right what went wrong for him last year. The lack of a major title is the one glaring hole in the resume of the 27-year-old Duval, and he intends to correct that sooner, not later.

"I don't view it as intimidating." be said about trying to win three weeks in a row. "I think it is helpful to win the week before you go somewhere. It makes you realize that what you are doing is right, same circle of friends, a down-to-earth and I know I can do it. The pressure at year has only poistered the confidence of a player who doesn't need more.

Would I be surprised if 10 years from now. I still haven't won the Masters?" that before I'm done, I'll get one."

After last year's ending. Duval hardly needs motivation. While O'Meara was at Augusta than he did in 1997, when he basking in victory. Daval left Augusta missed the cut, making a 9 on the par-5 National Golf Club and returned to the No. 15. house he had rented for the week. He was greeted by friends and well-wishers, all Duval said. "I had laid up left, a pretty house he had rented for the week. He was of them trying to cheer him up. But before long. Duval couldn't take any

'Don't try to console me," Duval announced to the crowd. "I appreciate it.

But there simply is no consolation." right of the pin. That's Augusta. There's a lot of local knowledge you need to



Herald Eribune

PORTS

Mark O'Meara, the defending Masters champion, hitting out of a sand ap on the 7th hole at Augusta during a practice round on Monday.

past 18 months, one of the most im-pressive streaks of this decade. In two years, he has changed from being a play-er knocked for not winning to being a player who people expect to win.

Already. Duval has put together a great year in a linle more than three months. In addition to the Players Championship and the BellSouth Classic, he won the Mercedes Championships and the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic. In the final round of the Hope, he became only the third player in PGA Tour history to shoot a 59.

Duval's talent is obvious, but his hunger and his ability to focus separate him from the crowd. His game face has become familiar: a stoic demeanor behind Oakley sunglasses, a player who makes plenty of birdies while showing linle emotion. Opponents who are paired with him marvel at his concentration, watching him hit quality shot after quality shot, almost expecting batteries to fall out of his back.

Yet, those close to Duval describe him as unchanged by success. He has the

Duval's hunger and his ability to focus separate him from the crowd. He has won 11 tournaments in the past 18 months.

nature and a giving heart.

only his success, but how he has handled stoke each other's fires."

for that golf course. I would anticipate curate approach shots into Augusta's lightning-quick, undulating greens. Duval feels much more comfortable

good place to lay up, with the cup on the front left side. But I dumped the next one into the water. Then I watched Nick Price play the hole, and he played it way a lot of local knowledge you need to happen. But I intend to be ready."

Duval has won 11 times during the have, and I've picked up a tremendous amount

With his great power off the tee, Duval has the advantage of hitting short-er irons into greens than most players. His pinpoint precision with short trons the precipice and wedges leaves him with many birdie outwits them. opportunities. His solid puning stroke holds up under pressure. And his intelligence and course management help him avoid the double-bogeys and triplebogeys that ruin rounds.

Duval has as complete a package as anyone in the game, and the final piece was learning how to win on the tour. Duval finished second seven times before his first victory at the 1997 Michelob Championship. During his string of runner-up finishes, people questioned his coofidence under pressure, Those close to him knew better.

Asked to name Duval's biggest strength. Blackmon did not hesitate.

"No weaknesses," said Blackmon, now the men's golf coach at the Uni-versity of South Curolina. "For a young guy who has been successful, David didn't have instant success. He had some have taught them. hard knocks along the way, and it seems like he was always overshadowed by "In college, it was Phil Mickelsoo,

on the PGA Tour, Woody Austin won rookie of the year instead of David. Then the Masters is different, hut after his impressive string of victories, Duval is the favorite, and that one-stroke loss last the favorite, and that one-stroke loss last who coached Duval at Georgia Tech.

"I'd be shocked if success ever the greatest thing for David, I know colleagues who can place the favorite and that one-stroke loss last who coached Duval at Georgia Tech.

Tiger is always, always in contention.

To standa chance against the greatest thing for David, I know be can outrun opponent.

To standa chance against the greatest thing for David, I know be can outrun opponent.

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To standa chance against the greatest thing for David, I know be can outrun opponent.

To standa chance against the greatest thing for David, I know be can outrun opponent.

Few players seem more equipped than for himself, despite the growing deasked Duval, repeating a question. Duval to handle Augusta, where the keys mands on him. He took three weeks off "Yeah. I might be. I feel I have the game to victory are putting coupled with acpare himself for the three-week stretch. which ends with the Masters. He didn't practice Monday, and he may only play one practice round before Thursday.

'It is a fine line I have to walk now." he said Monday. "Io make sure I get prepared then also make sure I am rest-

For the past 18 months, Duval has been the best player in the world. But will he be the best player this week? "You only get one shot a year to do it." Duval said. "Who knows what will

# 2 Matches Pit Youth Against Experience

By Rob Hughes

speed and movement, and maybe even

wears No. 10, as Shevchenko does for

#### EUROPEAN SOCCER

Dynamo Kiev. However, the German is 38, the Ukrainian 22, and the attempt by one to stifle the potency of the other makes their UEFA Champions' League semifinal a tantalizing prospect.

The other match also spans the ages Juventus is known as the Old Lady of soccer and she knows her way home to such an extent that the team has been to the final of the Champions Cup for the past three seasons. Year after year, she shows her age, allowing learns from Norway and from Greece to push her to the precipice of elimination before she

Now, with the first leg in England, the Old Lady is uoder threat from the youthful Manchester United team. The English challenger is the most virile, the most adventurous and the most attackmioded team left in the tournament, Will Juventus resist and put this young pup in its place? Or is it time the Old Lady

Eastern Europe is due to its relative

But experience is the key. If Mat-thaeus is to hold Shevchenko, if Ju-Beckham, they are going to have to to soothe and calm or rouse his team, employ the wiles that former contests Between them. Matthaeus and

The partisan crowds in Kiev and Manchester will urge their teams toward higher, stronger, swifter attacks, In such a febrile atmosphere, the pace quickens Then David had to spend a year on the and men have to control their emotions. Nike Tour. Then after a great rookie year to channel their gifts without being run off their feet.

Matthaeus has dealt bundreds of times came all the questions about why he with adrenaline-charged young oppowasn't winning. Even last year. Mark nents. He knows that Shevcbenko is fast O'Meara won player of the year. And of course, there's Tiger Woods. But when Tiger came along, I figured it would be the greatest thing for David. I know colleagues who can place the ball where

To stand a chance against him, the first thing an older competitor occus is a sharp Yet. Duval has made sure to take time anticipate danger so he can get his body into position in advance, or order — as Matthaeus is well-rehearsed at doing his teammates into the correct position.

Then, of course, the other Kiev movers, notably Sergei Rebrov and Vitali Kossovsky, will begin to sprint to where defenders should have been. This Kiev team also uses its hrain. Schooled by the cunning Valeri Lobanovsky, collectively strong at the back and patient in waiting for the hreaks, the Kiev style is Shevchenko bursting like a greyhound from the trap.

**Juventus and Bayern Rely on Veterans** thaeus, there is Stefan Effenberg, a tough wioner wheo he wants to be, and Carsten Jancker, who is maturing into a ONDON — Lolbar Matthaeus is bludgeooing, effective striker. Munich must wish, however, that Bixente Lizdrei Shevchenko, but on Wednes- arazu and Giovane Elber, two irreplaceday he must keep up with the Ukrainian's able talents from France and Brazil.

were not stricken with injuries.

The encounter in Kiev, and the return Matthaeus is the captain of Bayern match in Munich two weeks later, will Munich, and its last line of defense. He be cagey affairs — experience straining match in Munich two weeks later, will to bold youth. United and Juventus have met four times in the last three years, and the Italian team has won three times.

"We're not playing a reputation." said Alex Ferguson, the United manager. We're playing a team. "He stressed the word to emphasize that Manchester knocked out Inter Milan by exposing the lack of cohesion among Inter's arguably greater collection of stars.

Ferguson craves the Champions Cup: It is the crown that made Man Busby. another Scot who managed United. a knight, and is the one title Fergie has yet

to add to his managerial portfolio.

One crucial banle will pit Roy Keane against Edgar Davids in midfield. They are a couple of firebrands who fight. sometimes literally, to win the ball. Another will involve Filippo Inzaghi's gift for floating like a bunerfly and stinging like a bee, something Jaap Stam will try to control on behalf of United.

N ATTACK, served by David Beckham on the right and Ryan Giggs on grather left. Utited has the striking paces conceded to youth?

These are two fascinating cup pair—darting supporting runs of Paul Scholes, ings. The common denominator is Though he is only 30. eight years wealth and power (Kiev's prominence in younger than Matthaeus. Dickier Deschamps is Juventus's leader. He is the organizer, as he was for the French World Cup team. He knows how to simplify midfield, how to release Ziventus is to suppress the swift eagemess of Dwight Yorke. Andy Cole and David not keep him out of the semis), and how

Between them, Matthaeus and Deschamps have played more than 1,000 games, won all the great prizes, and stayed hungry for more. The game within the game is for men who have been around the clock and can use their wisdom to find a way for themselves and wisdom to find a way for themselves and their teammates to overcome the challenge. It is the game of life.

Rob Hughes is chief sportswriter for The Times of London.

#### ■ Real Madrid Fines Mijatovic

Real Madrid has fined the Yugoslav. striker Predrag Mijatovic 5 million pe-setas (\$32,000) for boycotting a game last Sunday in protest of the NATO anacks a gainst his homeland. The As and quick brain. He must see or sense or sociated Press reported from Madrid. .

'The club respects and understands Milatovic's situation, but he cannot refuse to play." said Antonio Mendez, a \$ team spokesman.

Mijatovic, a Yugoslav, said he felt he had to help his compatriots. "I respect the sanction but don't agree

with it. I'm disappointed." the 30-yearold player said. "I will try to concentrate for the next game against Celta, but right now I don't guarantee I will play. Mircea Lucescu has returned for an-

to suck the opposition in, and then hit other spell as coach of Rapid Bucharest, them with counterattacks, with the club said Tuesday, Agence France-Presse reported from Bucharest, Lucescu left Rapid to coach Inter Milan earlier Bayem, of course, is no stranger to the in the season, but resigned after Inter tactic. Apart from Methuselah Mat- lost, 4-0, at Sampdoria on March 21.

#### SCOREBOARD

## BASKETBALL NBA STANDINGS EASTERN CONFERENCE Miami New York Philadelph 515 500 406 313 594 1 588 3 563 4 516 51. 375 10 15 20 23 WESTERN CONFERENCE 697 662 606 .324 286 182 Partiand L.A. Lakers

6 813 —
17 .657 a\*
16 .500 10
18 .455 11\*;
19 .424 12\*;
29 .004 23 MONDAY RESULTS

Affecte 23 15 22 17 2 Charlotte 22 17 17 15 2 A: Blaylock 6-16-1-1 13. McLeod 5-9 3-4 1 A: Burnott 8-181-1 15. Inc. Level 9-5 -6-15.

C: Wesley 7-12 7-1 8. Janes 4-15 -6-15.

Rebounds: Altonia 56 1/Mutambo 14).

Choridite 39 (Compbell 91. Assistis: Atlanta 20

Halloylock 81. Chariotte 17 (Janes 51.

Boston 20 19 25 25—99

Orlands 23 37 19 27—108 8: Marrie 13-25 2-2 29. Plerce 9-18 1-7 2 O: O.Armstrong 8-12 8-8 28. Hardovory 9-1 6-7 24. Rebounds: Boston 40 (Walker 8 Orlando 53 (Grant 8). Assists: Boston 2 Barras 9), Orlando 25 (Hardaway 7), Indiana 23 23 25 28 19—88 Defrait 31 15 19 21—84 I. Miller 8-14 7-7 23, A Davis 6-11 5-5 17; D: Dok 9-12 1-2 10 Hull 5-17 8-12 15, Rebounds: Minnesofa 28 21 22 27—100
D: Trent 9-12 8-8 26. Brodler 5-6 44-14: Mitchell 5-14 8-9 18. Garnett 8-19 2-2 18. Rebounds: O 44 17 ent Bl. M. 48 (Garnett 9-14)
Assists: O. 19 (Nash 7). M. 27 (Brondon 8). Goldon State 20 17 38 19—85. Goldon State 20 17 38 19—85. San Antonio 65. 5 22 24 22—93. G.S.: 5 tarks 7-20 2-2 18. Allile 6-8 1-2 13; 5. A.: Duncan 9-18 7-8 25. Robinson 7-17 11-20 25. Rebounds: Golden State e9 (Oampier,

Jamison 91. San Antomo 56 (Pobinson 16). Assests: Galden State 15 (Coles, Mults 4), San 1201110 17 (Jahnson 4) D Van Exel 1+25 11-13 41, Fortson 8-11 5-5 21. Lakers: Rice 9-19 5-8 26. Bryant 8-12 6-7 26. Rebounds: Denver 44 (Fortson 12). Lakers 49 (Podman 17) Assists: Denver 17

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Detroit 100 702 000—11 13 0 Texas 000 000 131—5 5 3 Moehler, Kida (8), Nationali (8): Brocali (9) and Ausmus. Helling. Loaza (3). Morgai 16). Munoz (9) and Padriguez. W.—Algorie 1-0. L.—Helling. D-1. HRS—Detroit 1-0. L—Heiling D-1. H/9s—Detroit. Encomación (1). Easley (1). Higginson (1). Texos, Stevens (1). Boslon 002 002 001—5 13 1 Kanses Cify 200 000 100—3 6 0 Martinez, Lowe (7). Gordon (9) and Hoffeberg Appier, Wengert (6). Virtusenant (B). Service (8) and Kreuter, W—Martinez (1-0). L—Appier D-1, Sw—Gordon (1). MRs—Boston, Valentin (1). Virtuses (1). Le-Spier D-1, Sw—Gordon (1). MRs—Boston, Valentin (1). Virtuses (1). Ranges (1). Ranges (1). Ranges (1). Ranges (1).

Tumpa Bay 10) 111 002—7 12 0 Baltimore 004 200 04x—10 13 0 Alvarez, White (41, Ovvall (61, Yan 17). Timlin 19) and Jahnsan. W—Missina 1-0.
L—Alvacez D-1. 5v—Timlin 111.
HRs—Tampa Boy, Canseco (1). Floherly III.
Baltmore, Anderson LL, Belle (1).
Chicago 100 122 200—8 12 p
Seatterin, Foulie 17. Simas (9) and
Fardyze Fassero. Hinchiffe (7) and Wilson.
VI—Baldwin 1-0. L—Fassera 0-1.
HRs—Chicago. Konerko -II. Jackson (II.
Seattle, Guillen (1). Griffey Jr (I).
New York 101 000 100—3 5 0
Oakland 000 020 30x—5 7 1

Oblitand 000 620 30x-5 7 1
(6 instags, rain)
Clemens, Stanlart 17, Nelson (7) and Grandl, Heredia, Mathews (7) and Hmch, W--Mathews, 1-0, L-Stanlard, 0-1 HRS--NY, York, Jeter (1), Dowls (1) Ookland, Phillips (1). Jeter (1). Devis (1) Cokland. Philips (1).

NATIONAL LEAGUE
San Francisco 300 300 220—11 15 1
Cancinsoli 020 006 000—8 12 1
Cordner. Tavorez 161. Embree 17).
Johnstone 98. Nen (9) and Moyne: Tamina.
Reyes :41. Hudeh 171. White (8), Williamson (9) and Taubensee W—Embree 1-0.
L—Hudeh 0-1. 5v—Nen (1). HRs—San Francisco. Hayes 111. Burks 111. Cincinnoli. Comeron 111. Cosey (1). Sweeney (1).
Philadelphia 012 000 202—7 8 0
Allianto 200 200 006—4 8 1
Schilling, Perez (7). Gomes (8). Bronitey (1) and Lieberthol: Gavine. Mcglinchy 17).
Cother: 81, Wahlers 191. Rocker (9) and Lopez. W—Schilling 1-0. L—Glovme 0-1.
Sv—Brontley III. HRs—Philadelphia. Roten (1). Atlanta, Jerden (1).
Arizona 000 105 000 00—6 12 1
Los Angoles 100 108 013 02—8 13 0
III immings)
Jahnson. Holmes 181. Swindell (8).
Reynoso 181. Clean (9), Frascatore (10) and Sunnerf, Brown. Barbon (6). Rojes (7).
Masonda (8). AMIs (9), Shaw 100 and Hundley W—Shaw 1-0. L—Frascotore 0-1.
New Yark 001 000 001-2 9 0
Rennies 200 000 000 00 0.

Florida 300 020 013—6 12 0
Leiter, Manzanillo (6), Wendell (8) and Piazza, Femandez, Edmandson 16), Darensbourg (8), Alforseca (8), Martiel (9) and Redmand, VI—Fernandez 1-0, L—Leiter 0-1, HP—Nea York, Oldrud (1).

Montrool 302 004 009—9 17 2
Pittsborgh 000 010 001—2 7 2
Hermonson, Telford 181 and Widger, Cordova, Philips 161, Sauerbeck (6), J. Wallace (9) and Kendell, W—Hermonson 1-0, L—Cardova 0-1, HP5—Montreal, Guerrera (1), Widger 111.

Miltwacke 010 420 003—10 11 0
St. Louis 010 010 003—1 11 0 11), Widger [1],
Miltraukke 010 420 003—10 11 0
St. Lauli 010 010 033—8 11 0
Roque, Weathers 131, Plunk 16), Fax 181,
Nyers 181, Wickman (9) and Misson;
Osborne, Busby 131, Aybar 151, Pointer 161,
Radiasky 27, Boffolico (81, Accredo (9) and
Marrero W.—Weathers 1-0 L.—Busby 0-1,
HRS.—Altizoukee, Burnitz (1), Berry 111,
Historia 13, Laulie Accessed 11, Totle 31.

ICE HOCKEY NHL STANDINGS FASTERN CONFERENCE ATLANTIC BRYSSION
W L T Phs GF GA
ey 42 22 11 95 228 183
h 36 27 14 95 732 219
hhla 14 25 19 86 719 188
ers 27 35 10 74 209 213
ers 21 45 10 52 174 226
NORTHEAST DIVISION

| Second Period: None. Third Period: T. Sundin 29 [Modin, Kappovisevi 4, 1-Berard B | Modin 29 [Modin 29 [Modin, Kappovisevi 4, 1-Berard B | Modin 29 [Modin CIFIC DAVISION
W L T PIS GF GA
47 17 17 106 217 158
38 26 12 88 194 179
34 20 12 80 203 187
29 30 17 75 182 177
28 43 5 61 172 205

2-dinched conference title First Period: None Second Perion; W-Bellows 17 (Oarles, Gratton) (pp). Third Period: W-Gonchar 21 (Oales, Gratton) 3, V-Black 16 (Zedink, Conchar) (en). Shots on goal: W-13-8-9-30. F-12-9-o-28, Goales: W-Kolzig, F-McLean. Mantreal 0 0 0-0 Boston 1 2 0-3 First Period: 8-Samsonav 24 (1hornton. Borowel (pp). Second Period: B-OdMaio 6 (Sweeney, Baurque) 3, 8-Carter 18 (Allison) Third Period: None Shots on goal: M-5-13-7-25, 8-8-10-8-26 Goales: M-Chabol, 8-

Pirspurgn
Buffalo
First Penad: B. Ward 19 1Peca. T. Brown!
Second Purlod: B. Woollev 7 (Varoda.
Barnes) 2 P. R. Brown 12 (Kesa. Oslas)
Third Period: B. Smehld. 2 (Zhhimik) (enl.
Shats on gool: P. 6-9-11—26. B. 4-12-6—22.
Goalles: P. Shudro. B. Hoset.

St. Louis 2 0 0 Toronto 0 0 2 First Period—1, S.1.-Bartecko 5 (Dec PeBerini. 2. S.L.-Turgeon 30 (Persson) Second Period: None. Third Period: T-Sundin 29 (Modin. Karpovisev) 4. T-Berard B

Chicago
First Period: None. Secand Period: C-Daze
O | Oumarit | Third Period: C-Daze 21
| Martic, Oumarit | X-Scatichard 12, 1sh1.
Shots an goof: V-8-8-9-25. C-9-16-8-32.
Goalies: V-Weekes, C-Thibauti.
Las Angeles
O 0 1 --1
Colorado
First Period: C-Foote 5 (Hurder, Heiduk)
(201. 2, C.Farchem 27 Humbert, Heiduk)
(201. 2, C.Farchem 27 Humbert) (ch. prist Period: C-Podre 5 (Humer, Hegots) (ppl. 2. C-Forsberg 27 (Lemheur) (shi. Second Period: C-Forsberg 28 (Sokic, Ozolinshi (ppl. Third Period: LA-Strappel 13 (Robitotile, Galleyi S. C-Hejdak 14 (Sokic, Miller: Shafs on good LA- B4-10—27, C-8-12-15—35. Goolles: LA-Fisel, C-Ray.

CRICKET WEST INDIES VS. AUSTRALIA 4TH TEST, FOURTH DAT TUESDAT IN ST JOHN'S, ANTIQUA Australia; 303 and 306 all out. Wast Indias: 222.

GOLF RYDER CUP POINTS

Jim Furyk, 550 500 6. Payne Stewart, 532,500 11. Justin Leonard, 439,375 12. Hai Suttan, 436,250 13. Phil Muckelson, 400,000 14. Fred Funk, 370 000

 Colun Mantgomerie, Scotland, 5,890.11
 Miguel Angel Jimlinez, Spain, 3,787.77
 Darren Clarke, N.Ireland, 3,453.39 6. Alex Ceixa. Germany, 2,631,94
7. David Howell, England. 2,608,80
8. Andrew Caltert, Scattond. 2,329,57
9. Rabert Kartsson, Sweden, 2,322,57
10. Potnik Sjoland. Sweden, 2,122,27
11. James Sandalin, Sweden, 2,090,15 12. Steve Webster, England, 1,978,50 14. Bernhard Langer, Germany, 1,756,79 15. Paul McGinley, Ireland, 1,715,53

SOCCER YOUTH WORLD CUP

FIRST ROUNG GROUP A

STANDINGS: Germony 3 points; Costa
Rica 1: Nigeria I; Paraguay 0. GROUP C (GB: Australia 3 points; Ireland 3: Mejuco D. Sgudi Arabia D

Malı 2. Uruguay 1 Portugal 3. South Korea 1 STANDINGS: Portugal 3 points: Mail 3 Liruguay Q: South Korea Q. GROUP E Cameroon 2. Japan 1
United States 1, England 0
STANDINGS: Cameroon 3
States 1: Japan 9: England 0.

GROUP F Zomble 4 Handures 3 Spoin 2, Brazil 0 DAGS: Spain 3 points: Zambia 3: Honduras Q: Srazil Q. ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Newcostle 1, Toftenham 1 Coventry City 1, Southampton 0 Everton 1, Sheffield Wednesdo Middlestrough 3, Wimbledon 1

Arsenol 60: Chelsea 59; Leeds United 57; West Hom United 47; Aston Villa 45; Derby County 44; Liverpool 43; Middlesbrough 43; Newcastle United 42; Wimbledon 41; Totlenham Hatsour 40: Sheffield Wednesday 38: Leicester City 37; Coventry City 37; Charitor Athletic 31; Blackburn Rovers 21; Everton 31 voton 30: Nottingham Forest 21.

TENNIS

. [11 Mortina Hingts, Switz., 5.763 paints . (2) Lindsay Davenport, U.S., 5,215 141 Jana Novatno, Czech Rep
 (3) Manica Seles, U.S., 3.781 5. (5) Sleffi Graf, Germ 5. IS Seam Grown, USA, 2089
7. 17) Arunhu Sonchez Vicaria, Sp. 2847
8. (8) Mary Pierca, France, 2,394
9. 111) Serena Williams, U.S. 2,080
10. (13) Pathy Schayder, Switz. 2,058
11. 110) Nathalie Tauziai, France, 2,050 12. (12) Sandrine Testud, France, 1,994 13. (9) Amanda Coetzer, South Africa, 1,874 14. (14) Amelie Mauresma, France, 1,839 15. 1161 Daminique Van Roast, Belg., 1,816

16. (20) Anno Koumikova, Russia, 1,808 s week's ronking are in brackels TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL RASHRALI

AMERICAN LEAGUE

R.Y. TANKEES—Put RHP Domeil Einerson, RHP Mike Jerzembeck and LHP
Andy Petitie on 15-doy disabled Bit. Bought
contract of INF Clayton Betlinger and RHP
Jasao Grinssley from Columbus. IL Optioned
RHP Ryan Bradley, RHP Ben Fard and RHP
Jay Tessmer to Cotombus.

OAKLAND ATALETICS —Designated LHP
Ron Mothey for assignment, Purchased contract of 18 John John from Vancouver, PCL
TAMPA BAY—Optioned OF Bubba Trammell to Durham, IL.

mell to Durham, IL. TEXAS— Assigned RHP Jeff Zimm C Mike Hubbard, INF Refael Bournig Scott Sheldon, OF MBt Coyler to Ok City, PCL. Optioned LHP Mike Venofro and OF Ruben Make to Oktohoma City.
Torontro--Put RHP Robert Person on 15-

doubled list, retroctive to March 24. Recolled RHP Tom Dovey from Syrocuse. IL.

MATICINAL LEAGUE

ARIZONA—Optioned RHP Violimir Nune2.

INF Date Sweum and INF Danay Klassen to
Tucson, PCL Bought control of OF Emile

Young from Tueson. -Bought contracts of OF Boson HOUSTON—Cottoned INF Russ Johnson to HOUSTON-Optioned INF Russ Johnson to the Orleans, PCL. Put OF Moises Alou on New Orleans, P.L. Pur Or moreas Alou on the 15-day disabled list.

105-May6ELES—Optioned OF Trentdod Hubbard and LHP Leff Kubenka to Albuquerque, P.C. Designated LHP Grey Codare tank RHP Arnold Gooch for assignment. Put RH P Steve Managemeny on 60-day disabled list, Beught contracts of DF Jacob Brumfield, C Rick wittless and LHP Parties. Mike Maddux, OF Orlanda Merced and C Oamon Car from Officira, IL Optioned LHP Rick DeHort to Officira, Optioned RHP Shayne Bennet to Officira, IL PITTSBURGH Put RHP Javier Martine

and INF Doug Stronge on 15-day disabled list. Bought contract of INF Warren Monts Iram Nashville, AA. 57. LOUIS-Put OF Ray Lankford and INI David Howard on 15-day disabled list. Called up INF Placido Polanca and INF Luis Ordaz Iram Momphis, PCL. imm Memphis, PCL.

SAN FRACISCO-Optioned OF Armende
Ries, C Daug Mirobelli, INF Wilson Delgade
and RHP Bronswell Petric to Fresno. PCL
Called up INF Edwards Guzman from
Fresno. Bought contracts of C Scott Servers

and RHP Miguel Oel Toro from Freenoe, Put 3B BS fAveiller on 15-day disabled list. Maint acaL—Optioned RHP Shayne Ben-net to Ottown, IL. NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION LA. LAKERS—Put F Travis Knight an in-ined list. Activated G Tyronn Lue. NEW JERSEY—Signed F Mark Hendrick.

n to second 10-saycontract. PHILADELPHIA -Signed G Ooug Overlan la second 10-day contract.

#A\$HINPTPE —Fired Bernie Bickerstoff cooch. Named Jim Brovell cooch. FOOTBALL
RATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
CINCINNATI—Signed WR James Hunder
to 1-year and OL Brian DeMarco to 3-year
contracts.

MIAMI—Signed FB Roosevelt Potts and LB Larry Izzo to 2-year controcts.

MINASSOTA - Agreed to terms with QB Jeff PITTSBURGH -- Walved S Ba Orland Traded WR Johnse Arnold to Green Bay for

past considerations.

SAR DIEGO—Re-signed CB Paul Bradford and OL Tray Sienklewicz in 1-year con HOCKEY MATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE FLORIDA—Recalled O Peter Ratchuk and O Jeff Ware from New Haven, AHL Recalled Marcus Nilson from New House

LOS ANGELES - Recoiled RW Povel Rosa from Long Beach, IHL ST. Louis—Recorded F Tyson Nash Irom Worcester, AHL, Extended contracts of Larry Plean, general manager, and John Ferguso essistant general manager, through 2001-02

TAMPA BAY-Recoiled C Steve Kelly from Clevekand, IHL SAN JOSE —Assigned G John Nobokov Kentucky, AHL PITTSBURGH—Recalled G Crosq H

SVIOCUSE, AHL COLLEGE DELAWAGE-Extended contra ey, mens basketball coach, until

تفكذا من الأصل

#### **SPORTS**

# McGwire Gives Crowd What It Came to See rience But Cards Lose, 10-8, After Long Rain Delays "He doesn't disappoint the fans too "He doesn't disappoint the fans too

T. LOUIS - On a rainy night filled with ceremony and anticipation, Mark McGwire showed that his sense of timing is still as perfect as his powerful swing. . A packed house waited almost four hours Monday, through four dismal innings of baseball and two long rain

#### NL ROUNDUP

delays, but in the bottom of the fifth inning, McGwire delivered. He turned on a fastball from Milwaukee righthander David Weathers and launched it over the fence in right-center field.

With one swing, he opened a new season just as he had begun a recordsetting 1998 season - with a home run." Last year, he went on to hit 69 more on bis way to a record-breaking season.
For a while, it looked as if the 47,806

fans at Busch Stadium wouldn't even see him swing the bat once the game started. After peppering the seats with 13 home runs during batting practice; McGwire was walked by Rafael Roque, the Milwaukee starter, in a first inning that followed a 49-minute rain delay. The two sides played two innings, then waited ont a 68-minute rain delay.

McGwire struck out on a nasty slider by Weathers in the bottom of the third inning, but when Weathers left a fastball over the middle of the plate in the fifth, McGwire smoked it to right field. He was greeted at home by his son Matt, who'd been on the field for some of the most memorable moments of last season,

dinals manager, after his team lost, 10-8, to the Brewers.

McGwire is such a pull hitter that the Brewers positioned three of their four infielders to the left of second base, but McGwire ended up hitting three balls to the right side, including the home run to

right center.
"I'll bet that one shocked America,"
McGwire said. "I don't think I've done
that too often."

He got another chance in the seventh, but flied to center with two runners on base. He flied to deep right in the ninth. Even though the Cardinals came back to make it close Monday, their pitching hurt them throughout, Both starters struggled in the two innings before the

game was delayed again in the top of the

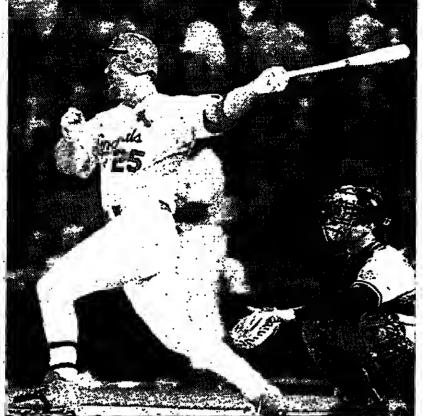
third inning. In September of '96, when we were winning the division, the excitement happened for nine innings every game, La Russa said before the game. September last year, it was only there for four at-bats every game. It was great for

Mark and it was great for us. "This year, we want the whole game to be exciting.

In other games, The Associated Press reported:

ball's first \$100 million man wasn't worth it in his Los Angeles Dodgers' debut. But Raul Mondesi was right on the money and bailed out Kevin Brown, who flopped in his marquee matchup

with Arizona's Randy Johnson. Mondesi tied the game with a three- runs as Monteal won in Pittsburgh.



Mark McGwire, who hit a record-smashing 70 home runs last year, clouting his first home run of this season in the Cardinals' first game.

run homer with two outs in the ninth. then hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the 11th, Brown allowed five runs and 10 hits in 5% innings.

Marins 6, Mots 2 Alex Fernandez. making his first start since shoulder surgery 18 months ago, outpitched former teammate Al Leiter to lead Florida to victory in Miami, Preston Wilson, stepson of Mets coach Mookie Wilson, drove in two runs for Florida.

Expos 9, Pirates 2 Vladimir Guerrero hit a three-run homer and drove in four

The top four of the Expos' order went a combined 10-for-19. The Guerrero brothers combined for six hits - older brother Wilton had two doubles among his three hits.

Giants 11, Reds & Charlie Hayes, who took over at third have when Bill Mueller was hurt, hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning to lead San Francisco to victory in Cincinnati.

Schilling and Philadelphia victory in At-

Phillies 7, Braves 4 Marlon Anderson drove in the three runs to give Curi

## Albert Belle Generates A Slugfest and Love-In By Thomas Boswell

Washington Post Service

ALTIMORE - Albert Belle met Oriole Park at Camden Yards. In was a mismatch. The joint couldn't hold him. You might as well try to keep Moby Dick in a goldfish bowl. With a pair of Orioles on base in the third inning on Opening Day. Monday, Baltimore's new \$65 million free agent

#### VANTAGE POINT

cleanup man bit a popup to the first baseman. Maybe it was more like a routine fly to the right fielder. In either case, it was definitely not a three-run

Except that, at Camden Yards it most assuredly was. Belle's big bloop skimmed over the right field wall in the comer. fair by a few yards. Suddenly, a 2-1 deficit became a 4-2 lead — on the way to a 10-7 victory — and a new era of almost frightening power had begun. For gently slicing a 1-1 low-and-away fastball to the opposite field, Belle got a standing ovation so prolonged that the 32-year-old right fielder took a curtain call, hounding out of the dugout and throwing both hands over his head to acknowledge the packed house,

Why not? Orioles fans greeted him with a huge, booless cheer when he was introduced before the game.

The people stood up and gave him a hell of an ovation, then when he hits a three-run bomb, he comes out of the dugout to acknowledge them," the Orioles manager, Ray Miller, said. "That's pretty special.

'But that's how our fans have always been. You hate him when he's on the other side. But you don't mind loving him on this side of the field.'

Bad reputation? What had reputa-As far as Orioles fans are concerned,

Albert Belle is exactly the guy they always thought he was. You sign him. You don't rile him up with incendiary comments such as "Good morning," or "How's it going, Alben?" Then you watch him hit three-run homers from now to Closing Day. What a straightforward sweetheart of

Nope," Belle said. in runs everywhere he plays. Nobody has stopped bim in eight torrid years in the majors and, without a court order or the 82d Airboroe, nobody's going to manage the trick in 1999, either.

But Belle averages more home runs and drives in more runs at Camden angry, misanthropic, misunderstood Al-Yards than in any big league park in bert Belle. "If this is how he hits when Young Award winner walked five. Nelson to drive in Oakland's fifth run. with the pitchers." manager Lou Pinistruck out nine in six innings as the Red which be has played. Maybe that's be- he's not talking to the media, said a "I was very excited to take the indiand" whate sox 8, Mariores 2 Ken Griffey ella said. "We have to live with them Sox won their opener for the sixth time cause Camden Yards sometimes re- veteran Oriole, "I hope he doesn't say a sembles a large Little League park.

Counting Monday, Belle has 16 homers and 40 runs batted in in 158 atbats at Camden Yards.

"Albert is not a traditional home run hitter who needs to pull the ball." said the Orioles general manager. Frank Wren, who signed him.

"He uses all parts of the park for home runs, not just hits." Belle also drove a ball to the warning track in right in the fourth inning with a flick of the

Obviously. Albert has just been wait-ing for the Belle to ring. All spring, he's been in a slump or hining into Florida headwinds. Baning helmets, bats and lockers have been in danger. Have you ever seen a wooden stool quake with

fear? Not a pretty sight. For the exhibition season. Belle batted .206 with one puny home run in 63 at-bats. Why, Sammy Sosa hit 12 homers and Mark McGwire 9. Awaken, O Al-

And, now, he has, How convenient. In the bottom of the eighth inning, Belle lashed a single into left field for his fourth RBI. Over the last four seasons, Belle's homer and RBI totals have been 50-126, 48-148, 30-116 and 49-152. More of the same appears in store. At the very least.

Belle wasn't the only new Oriole who seemed tickled to call Oriole Park home. Will Clark, with his beautiful ,302career batting stroke, could benefit most from batting in The Yard and hitting in front of Belle in the order.

For the last five years, the spacious left field at The Ballpark in Arlington has done no favors as his homers fell to

So, Will the Transplanted Thrill began his time in Baltimore with a single, double and sacrifice fly. If Brady Anderson, Mike Bordick and Clark keep giving Belle chances to drive in runs as they did Monday by getting on base nine times among them — "then he will have a monster year," Clark said.

Belle has had a complex and controversial career. But, at 32, be's presumably more self-controlled than in the

Given his warm curtain call on Opening Day, perhaps he's also happy to be in a town that's famous for appreciating its great ballplayers on their own terms. Jim Palmer was baseball's leading hypochondriac. Frank Robinson was so com-Of course, he hits home runs and drive petitive that he often came across as a crab. Eddie Murray and Lee May barely gave a quote per decade. Even Cal Ripken's mother called him "sulky." When the mood was on him. Earl Weaver would insult anything that moved.

So, bring on smart, hard-working, word all year.

# Yankees Start the Season in '98 Form — by Losing

MODEL?

For the New York Yankees, 1999 opened the same way last season did with a loss.

year, "said Art Howe, the Oakland manager, after his team beat the Yankees, 5-3. Monday in a game called after eight homered in the top of the seventh, but ipnings by rain.

Even the addition of Roger Clemens couldn't get New York off to a better start than last year, when the Yankees he gave up the first of three Oakland runs lost their first three games, before rolling off a record 125 victories.

Though his 15-game winning streak runs and four hits in 61/3 innings and struck ont eight. The five-time Cy

jacked up for every start. But taking the field with these gnys is very special."

I've never seen anybody so high to win a ballgame as Clemens was," said "I guess they won't win 162 this Don Zimmer, the Yankees interim manager. "He was like a wild lion."

Clemens led, 3-2, after Derek Jeter

#### AL ROUNDUP

in the bottom of the inning and ended the night with no decision. Jason Giambi's run-scoring ground-

remained intact, Clemens failed to hold a out off Mike Stanton tied the game, 3-3, seventh-inning lead. He allowed three and Matt Stairs followed with a runscoring single off Stanton, who took the loss. John Jaha then doubled off Jeff

tonight." Clemens said. "I'm pretty also started 1999 as he started 1998.

PEANUTS

GARFIELD

YE5 MA'AM\_NOW THAT.I'M

IN THE 'D-MINUS HALL OF FAME'

DO I STILL HAVE TO DO THE

SAME WORK AS YOUR

ORDINARY STUDENTS?

YOU KNOW, THERE ARE TIMES

BEETLE BAILEY

EVERYONE HAS HOPES

With Hank Aaron in the crowd in Seattle, Griffey hit a home run on opening day for the seventh time.

After homering, Griffey, saluted Aaron, who had thrown out the first ball in the last opener at the Kingdome.

Aaron holds the baseball career record of of 755 home runs. Griffey's shot

was his 351st. 'I'm still 404 behind." said Griffey, who is 29 and starting bis 11th season.

Griffey has homered the last three opening days, and bis seven are one shy of Frank Robinson's record. The Mariners lost because their pitching also showed its 1998 form. Despite leading the majors in homers last season.

the Mariners finished 76-85. We're going to have to be patient and grow with them."

HUHHH

Jeff Fassero (0-1) allowed six runs in six innings, including two-run homers by Darrin Jackson and Paul Konerko as the White Sox showed that they might have more offense than their fans expected after losing Albert Belle and

Robin Ventura to free agency.

Frank Thomas doubled twice, singled a guy, What a straightforward you want?

Got anything to add, Albert? Tigers 11, Rangers 5 Juan Encar-

nacion homered on the game's first pitch from Rick Helling (0-1) as Detroit won in Texas. Bobby Higginson and Damion Easley

both hit three-run homers for Detroit. Red Sox 5, Royals 3 Jose Offerman, signed from the Royals to replace Mo Vaughn's bat, went 4-for-5 as Boston won in Kansas City. Pedro Martinez in seven years.

A ROLE

MODEL

194 DAV75 4-7

.AT LEAST

TEN HOURS

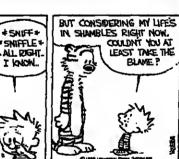
A DAY

TAKE NOW FOR INSTANCE

#### CALVIN AND HOBBES

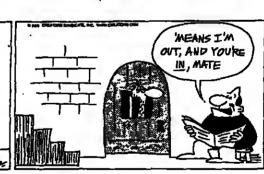






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#### NON SEQUITUR



DOONESBURY FLASHBACKS





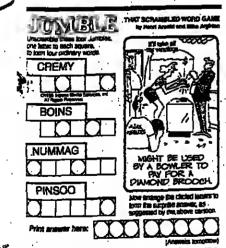


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## DENNIS THE MENACE



MR. WILSON SAYS ANTIQUES AREN'T WHAT THEN USED TO BE



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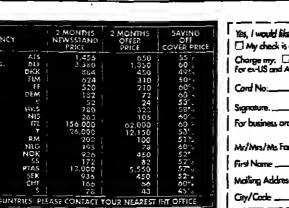
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By John-Thor Dahlburg Los Angeles Times Service

stone-lined dry dock lies what build a replica of the ship. looks like the fossil of an enormous dinosaur, its spinal ried the welcome news of column stretching 145 feet. French assistance to the

its ribs vaulting skyward. turies ago as a shippard for chor still marks the spot. French kings, but now a depressed river port -- is trying fayette when he returned to chapter from its past.

in central France, quickly be- back from America. came seasick.

Ahead lay a perilous, 38day voyage across the Atlantic. On reaching America. the Frenchman would inform his commander. General George Washington, that King Louis XVI was pleased to commit half a dozen ships of the line and 5,000 soldiers to help the colonial rebels in their struggle against the British.

From the moment I heard the name of America pronounced, I loved it. " recalled the messenger on board the Hermione, who is known to the European Union, will fihistory as the Marquis de La-nance the work through

No one, perhaps, better are correct, about \$11 million personities the shared ideals of the United States and and launch the ship. France - and their long, if sometimes testy, alliance than Lafayette, a recruit to the sails, it is to retrace the path of cause of American liberty Lafayette's 1780 voyage to whom Washington treated as a beloved son. It is a refationship the vessel from

Rochefort helped cement.
"If the United States ex-

ists, it is a little bit thanks to ROCHEFORT, France — Hermione, says Maryse Vi-The air here is fragrant tal, coordinator of the Herwith the tang of freshly work- mione-Lafavette Association ed oak. Down in the cobble- that was formed in 1993 to

The three-master that car-American revolutionaries ran The town of Rochefort - aground off Brittany 13 years founded more than three cen- later and sank. Its rusty an-A similar fate befell La-

to revive an illustrious France. After playing a hero's role in the French Revolution On March 10, 1780, the as commander of the National Hermione, a new 32-gun frig- Guard, he lost power when ate just launched at Roche- his men fired on a mob in fort, embarked with Marie Paris. He died in 1834 and Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gil- was buried in a little-known ben du Motier aboard. The Paris cemetery. Enamored to captain noted in his log that the end, he left instructions to the 23-year-old nobleman, a have his coffin covered with a native of the Auvergne region - trunk of dirt he had brought

> Half a dozen carpenters are building the ship, working with electric saws and planes but also with the same type of

> adzes and long iron chisels used in the 18th century. It all goes as planned, the skeleton and hull should be finished by 2005, the rest by 2007. Nobody knows how the reproduction will be paid for.

> About \$2.3 million, mostly from the town of Rochefort. the French government and year's end. But if estimates

Once the Hermione is built. fully rigged and trimmed with Boston, then return as the jewel of a tourist complex devoted to ships and the sea.

# A Playwright Spinning Tales of Irish Wool

By Mel Gussow New York Times Service

NEW YORK — When Conor McPherson was 10 and growing up in Dublin, he would gather his friends in his family's garage and entertain them with ghost stories of his own invention.

Seventeen years later, he is still telling stories, but the stage and the audience are considerably larger. Along with Martin Mc-Donagh. Sebastian Barry and Billy Roche. he is a leader - and, at 27, the youngest -- of a wave of Irish playwrights who are bringing new vitality to the contemporary theater.

McPherson's play 'The Weir.' which opened last week at the Walter Kerr Theater. has already been a hit in Dublin and London (where it won an Olivier award as best new play). An earlier work. "This Lime Tree Bower," will open in May at Primary Stages, which presented his "St. Nicholas" with Brian Cox last year. In "The Weir," old friends exchange

ghost stories in a runil Irish pub. trying to impress a young woman who has moved to the village from Dublin. In response, she offers a far more personal remembrance that has a disturbing effect on her listeners.

The title refers to a dam, he said: "On one side it is quite calm, and on the other side water is being squeezed through. Metaphor-ically the play is about a breakthrough. Lots under the surface is coming out. It's resonant of two worlds, the supernatural and our ordinary world past and present. I thought it was a great title, but 90 percent of the people

I've met just don't know what a weir is.

He added, "I saw a production of the play
in Paris, called "La Fille de Dublin," The
Girl From Dublin. "He laughed at that title and then merrily sung it to the tune of the "Girl From Ipanema."

McPherson was moved to write the play by memories of his visits as a teenager to his grandfather, who lived alone in Leitrim, a desolate area in the west of Ireland. "It was very quiet and dark there," he said. "It was environment was always somewhere in me. I couldn't forget about it.

"The Weir" conjures up a feeling of that



Conor McPherson: "I want to get to the nuts and bolts very quickly."

in their minds.

Among the new Irish playwrights, there seems to be a collegiality despite their vastly different approaches. McPherson regards Roche, whose "Wexford Trilogy" has not been done in New York, as "one of the greatest playwrights."

ture, he might credit himself with "an instinct for pace." for the ebb and flow of dialogue, or, in this case, of successive mooologues. "I find monologues liberating." he said, "I think the freedom they afford is great, just the simplicity of it and the images that people are creating." been done in New York, as "one of the greatest playwrights," someone who is "not ashamed to write about people who fall in love and have their hearts broken.

Barry said about "The Weir"; "I'm sure the play will capture the imagination in New York as it has done on the other side of the water. From my point of view, he's the only Irish playwright I've seen, including Me-Donagh, who has a gift for structure." To very quiet and dark there," he said. "It was andiences, the structure may not be immelike a culture shock. I suppose the whole diately apparent. In McPherson plays, people stand around talking, and except in Weir." they do not address one another.

The most dramatic events occur off-stage solitude and intimacy.

In contrast to McDonagh's power struggles to The Beauty Queen of Leen-their lives and sometimes swept into acts of ane and Barry's visceral explorations of violence.

Maybe it's a cinematic way of thinking."
Oddly enough, "This Lime Tree Bower." a

three-character collage of monologues. is being made into a film with 43 speaking roles and no monologues. McPherson is the director as well as writer, and his work on the movie in Ircland kept him from attending the opening of "The Weir" on Broadway. But his mother will attend. As he said, "We don't have the author, we have the author's mum."

Looking back on the Irish playwriting tradition, McPberson expressed a particular af-finity for Samuel Beckett: "What we perceive is very limited, and to watch us walking around like peacocks expounding our theories is comic. That's wby I think Beckett was brilliant, showing people right at the edge they'd love to go to that bar. Does it exist? I looking into absolute meaninglessness. How say that I'm not sure, but I had to make it up recent Irish history to The Steward of Commenting on Barry's remark about his looking into absolute meaninglessness. How say that I'm not sure, but I had to n Christendom". McPherson's plays are work, McPherson said that instead of structure, do you face the fact that you might not know because I wanted to go there too."

anything and you're completely lost?" And yet as with Winnie in Beckett's "Happy Days." he said, one goes right on

through the rituals of daily life.

As a playwright, he also feels a strong connection to American writers. He said that reading the work of Arthur Miller and David Mamet inspired him to write his first plays. He "devoured" "Death of a Salesman" and then moved on to Mamet's "Glengarry Glen

"I started to write by copying the way Mamet wrote, that kind of very fast dialogue." McPhersoo said. His first play, written when he was studying philosophy at the University College Dublin, was directly derivative, a one-act "about businessmen in shirt-sleeves.

It was called 'Taking Stock.' but he joked, the otle could have been 'Glenagaire Glen Ross." McPherson also directed it. His early plays were ensemble pieces. Then suddenly he switched to monologues. This

was a breakthrough, a kind of artistic weir.

With "This Lime Tree Bower," which
moved from Dublin to the Bush Theater in London. McPherson broadened his canvas. In this story of friendship and the limits of loyalty, three young men reveal themselves in a series of high-spirited, overlapping monologues. The next step, "The Weir," demonstrated that he could use his gift for monologue in a play with inspectation. monologue in a play with interaction.

His works often contain an eerie element. Cemeteries and funeral parlors figure prominently, which be attributes to a feeling of "Catholic guilt." He returns to this in his next play, "Dublin Carol."

It is set in an undertaker's office on Christ-

mas Eve and is about "someone who cannot understand that what's happening to him is beyond his control." He continued. "I think audiences can identify with that, Ir's the need to project a coping persona when you might

feel you're going to explode."

Unlike many of his countrymen, he never deals with politics in his plays. "I don't want to make a fiction out of it," he said. "For me 's too current, too real." He added: "I think I write about very ordinary things. It's enough have a story about those guys in the bur."

Despite the bleakness of the setting in The Weir. theatergoers have appareotly warmed to the environment. As McPherson said, "Many people have said to me that.

#### **PEOPLE**

3 New Prizes for Nonfiction Writing

New York Times Service NEW YORK — The newly created J. Anthony Lukas Prize Project has honored three nonfiction authors, with the largest award being a \$45,000 grant to a freelance writer who has been struggling financially to finish a book

about six World War II veterans from New Jersey. Kevin Coyne, 39, a former

newspaper reporter, received the \$45,000 prize for his work in progress. "The

Also honored were Henry Mayer, with a \$10,000 award for his book "All on

Fire: William Lloyd Garrison and the Abolition of Slavery." and Adam

Hochschild, with a \$10,000 prize for his account of the plundering of the Congo

by King Leopold II of Belgium: "King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed.

The awards recognize nonfiction writing that demonstrates literary grace

serious research and concern for an important aspect of American life.

Robert Pinsky, who teaches creative in 1985. He was reappointed to a third news release, saying Boyz II Men "have year Monday by Librarian of Congress not and will not be signing a management deal with Magic Johnson Management." especially active, appearing on television to stress that poenty is part of life.

deal with Magic Johnson Management."

The band would stick with the manager it to stress that poenty is part of life.

The singer Dusty Springfield, who died last month, willed her cat to a friend and arranged for the animal's favorite dish - canned baby food - to be flown in from the United States, a London newspaper reported. The Sunday Mirror said Springfield left the cat. Nicholas, to Lee Everett-Alkln, along with the animal's elaborate indoor "treehouse,"

Magic Johnson's fast break into the music biz may have been a bit too fast. In a news release last week, the former baskerball star announced his new venture. Magic Johnson Music Management.

THE poet laureate of the United States One of its first signifies, it said, was the retainment of Southpaw Entertainment. Morris said. to Nathan Morris, one of the founders of writing at Boston University, is the ninth the Grammy-winning group from Phillaureate since Congress created the title adelphia. Morris countered with his own

Best Years of Their Lives.

Terror and Heroism in Colonial Africa.

Three of Tammy Wynette's daughters have filed a \$50 million lawsuit blaming the singer's death on negli-

not seek medical care for her after Marsh urged him to do so on the day of her Bob Dylan and Paul Simon will hit the road together for a summer tour, the first time they have shared a concert bill. Each will play a 75-minute set and, on most of the tour's 32 dates, will play a

few duets. The tour starts June 6 in

Smith charged Monday that Wynette died because Wallis Marsh did not

monitor her condition closely and over-

prescribed medication. They alleged that

Wynette's husband. George Richey. did

Colorado Springs, and ends at Jones Beach in New York on July 31. Victoria Adams, Posh Spice of the pop group the Spice Girls, plans to marry the father of her newborn baby on July 4 near Dublin, The Sun reported in London. Adams and the soccer player David

Beckham have asked their 500 invited

guests to wear black and white and leave

their cameras at home.



Robert Pinsky is getting a third year as the U.S. poet laureate.

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